

GAME 1

2/3/01

SOUTH CAROLINA OPENS 2001 SEASON WITH A 9-0 SHUTOUT OF WOFFORD

COLUMBIA, SC – Kip Bouknight pitched six shutout innings Saturday and three Gamecocks hit home runs as South Carolina opened its 2001 baseball season with a 9-0 win over Wofford before a record opening day crowd of 5,912 fans.

The two teams meet again at 1:30 p.m., Sunday at Sarge Frye Field.

Bouknight, the 2000 National Player of the Year, tied a South Carolina school record with his 36th career victory and established a new school mark for career innings pitched with 362. He walked one and struck out four in improving his career record to 36-8. Gary Bell allowed two hits in two relief innings and Lee Gronkiewicz pitched the ninth for South Carolina and allowed one hit.

George Lehr, the first of five Wofford pitchers, allowed five earned runs in four innings to take the loss.

Garris Gonce homered to lead off the South Carolina second inning, Brennan Dees hit a two run homer in the fifth, and Marcus McBeth homered with a runner on base in the sixth inning. McBeth drove in a third run with a single in the seventh.

Gonce also had a double and Tim Whittaker had two hits, including a double, for South Carolina. Bryon Jeffcoat drove in two runs with a sacrifice fly and a double. Chris Bono and Steve Thomas also had doubles in South Carolina's 13 hit attack.

The Gamecocks scored twice in the second and fifth innings, once in the fourth and seventh, and three times in the sixth inning.

Chad Livingston singled in the first and sixth innngs off Bouknight to account for two of seven hits by the Terriers. Other Wofford hits, all singles, were by Steve Casey, Brian Casey, Kevin Bowyer, Anthony Carbone and David Dufour.

Both teams played errorless baseball.

WOFFORD 000 000 000 – 0- 7-0
SOUTH CAROLINA 020 123 01X – 9-13-0

Lehr, Lynch (5), Trammell (6), Cress (7), Hewitt (8) and Thompson, Rhodes (6). Bouknight, Bell (7), Gronkiewicz (9) and Whittaker, Powell (7). W—Bouknight (1-0). L—Lehr (0-1). Save—None. 2B—USC, Gonce, Bono, Whittaker, Thomas, Jeffcoat. HR—USC, Gonce (1), Dees (1), McBeth (1-1).

GAME 2

- 2/4/01

DEES HOMERS TWICE AS SOUTH CAROLINA SHUTS OUT WOFFORD 8-0

COLUMBIA, SC – Brennan Dees homered twice Sunday and four South Carolina pitchers held Wofford to five hits as the Gamecocks shut out the Terriers for the second consecutive day, 8-0, at Sarge Frye Field.

Dees also homered in South Carolina's 9-0 win on Saturday. Marcus McBeth, who also homered Saturday, hit his second in Sunday's game that improved South Carolina to 2-0 while Wofford fell to 0-2. South Carolina's next action is at 3 p.m., Tuesday against Coastal Carolina at Sarge Frye Field.

Chris Spigner (1-0) pitched the first 5 1/3 innings to get the win. He allowed two hits, struck out seven and walked four. Tate ~~Austin~~^{Sturman} (0-1), the first of six Wofford pitchers, took the loss.

Dees hit a solo home run in the first inning to open the South Carolina scoring and homered with a runner on base in the seventh. McBeth's home run came with the bases empty in the fifth inning. Tony Adler had two hits and an RBI for the Gamecocks. Adler also pitched the ninth inning and struck out the side. Garris Gonce, who had two hits in the Saturday opener, contributed two more on Sunday as the Gamecocks totaled 10 hits.

Wofford shortstop Chad Livingston was the only Terrier the Gamecocks couldn't get out. He had three singles and a walk on Sunday after a two for three day Saturday. Wofford's other Sunday hits were by Steve Casey and Lawson Burnat. All 12 of the Terrier hits in the two game series were singles and no Wofford runner advanced past second base in the series.

South Carolina scored single runs in the first, third and fifth innings and broke the game open with two in the seventh and three runs in the eighth.

After an errorless Saturday game, each team committed one error Sunday. Attendance for the two games totaled 8,600 as 2,688 fans braved chilly weather Sunday. Saturday's game drew an opening day record 5,912.

WOFFORD 000 000 000 — 0- 5-1

SOUTH CAROLINA 101 010 23x — 8-10-1

Osterman, Sturkie (6), Trammell (8), Hewitt (8), Cress (8), Timanus (8) and Rhodes. Spigner, Taylor (6), Price (8), Adler (9) and Powell, Whittaker (9). W—Spigner (1-0). L—Osterman (0-1). Save—None. 2B—USC, Meyer, Floyd. HR—USC, Dees 2(3), McBeth (2).

GAME 3

Feb. 6, 2001

PLUMMER'S 3 RUN HOMER POWERS SOUTH CAROLINA TO 8-5 WIN OVER COASTAL

COLUMBIA, SC – Chris Plummer hit a three run home run and Bryon Jeffcoat also drove in three runs with three hits Tuesday to lead South Carolina to an 8-5 win over Coastal Carolina.

The Gamecocks improved to 3-0 and Coastal dropped to 2-1. Gary Bell (1-0), the second of four South Carolina pitchers, was the winner while Coastal starter Scott Sturkie (1-1) took the loss. Lee Gronkiewicz earned his first save with 1 1/3 shutout innings.

South Carolina travels to Charleston for three games in The Citadel's tournament this weekend. The Gamecocks open the event at 10 a.m., Friday against Virginia Commonwealth and will meet Richmond Saturday and Old Dominion on Sunday.

South Carolina led 5-4 when Plummer hit his first home run of the season in the sixth inning with Tim Whittaker and pinch runner Steve Thomas on base to stretch the lead to 8-4. Coastal added a run in the seventh but could get no closer.

Jeffcoat doubled in two runs in South Carolina's four run second inning and, after Coastal had closed the score to 4-3, doubled again in the fourth inning to drive in Plummer who had singled. Jeffcoat's third hit was a single in the sixth inning.

The bottom four hitters in South Carolina's batting order had eight of the nine Gamecock hits and drove in seven of the eight runs. Leadoff batter Marcus McBeth drove in the other with a single.

Chris Bono contributed a double and an RBI to the Gamecock attack.

Brandon Powell, Adam Kiem and Randy McGarvey had two hits each as Coastal Carolina managed eight hits. Kiem, McGarvey and Ryan McGraw had doubles. Coastal's other hit was a single by Chris Carter.

South Carolina used two big innings, scoring four runs in the second and three on Plummer's homer in the sixth. The Gamecocks scored once in the fourth inning. Coastal scored twice in the third inning and single runs in the fourth, fifth and seventh.

COASTAL CAROLINA 002 110 100 – 5-8-1

SOUTH CAROLINA 040 103 00x – 8-9-1

Sturkie, Schuka (5) and McGarvey. Wilson, Bell (4), Adler (6), Gronkiewicz (8) and Whittaker. W—Bell (1-0). L—Sturkie (1-1). SV—Gronkiewicz (1). 2B—CCU, McGraw, Kiem, McGarvey; USC, Bono, Jeffcoat. HR—USC, Plummer (1).

GAME 4

Feb. 9, 2001

BOUKNIGHT LEADS GAMECOCKS PAST RAMS 7-2

CHARLESTON, SC – Senior right-hander Kip Bouknight picked up his second win of the season and set a school record with his 37th career victory Friday night in leading South Carolina to a 7-2 win over Virginia Commonwealth in the Berkeley Electric Cooperative shootout at Joseph P. Riley Park.

Eighth ranked South Carolina improved its record to 4-0 while Virginia Commonwealth lost its season opener. South Carolina meets Richmond Saturday in the second day of the three day shootout.

Justin Tatro, the second of four VCU pitchers, took the loss.

The game was scoreless through five innings but South Carolina third baseman Chris Plummer was hit by a pitch in the bottom of the sixth. Freshman catcher Landon Powell followed with his first collegiate home run to stake the Gamecocks to a 2-0 lead.

Virginia Commonwealth tied the score with two runs in the top of the seventh. Consecutive singles by Joshua Ortega, Cory Bauswell and Kevin Elrod, a South Carolina error, and a hit by Davy Martin did the damage.

The Gamecocks put the game away with five runs in the seventh inning. Two hit batters, hits by Trey Dyson and Powell, who drove in his third and fourth runs of the game, and a three run homer by Marcus McBeth accounted for the scoring. It was McBeth's third home run in four games.

Bouknight pitched seven innings and allowed five hits and both VCU runs. He struck out seven and walked one. The win boosted Bouknight's career record to 37-8 and erased the record of 36 wins set by Tim Lewis, 1973-76.

"I tried to keep the pitch count low and get ahead of the hitters," Bouknight said in assessing his performance. "I had a great defense behind me and they made some great plays to keep us in the game."

Coach Ray Tanner said, "Kip has been steady from day one for us and he was sharp today and that really helped us. We were able to put up a five spot to give him some breathing room and we are happy to beat a very good VCU team."

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH 000 000 200 – 2-5-0

SOUTH CAROLINA 000 002 50x – 7-7-1

Fisher, Tatro (7), Martin (7), Pendergrast (8) and Bauswell. Bouknight, Gronkiewicz (8), Whetstone (9) and Powell, Whittaker (8). W—Bouknight (2-0). L—Tatro (0-1). Save—None. 2B—USC, Meyer. HR—USC, Powell (1), McBeth (3).

GAME 5

Feb. 10, 2001

SPIGNER PITCHES GAMECOCKS TO 4-2 WIN OVER RICHMOND, 5-0 RECORD

CHARLESTON, SC – South Carolina scored three runs in the top of the first inning Saturday and junior right-hander Chris Spigner scattered four hits over seven innings to lead the eighth ranked Gamecocks to a 4-2 win over Richmond in the Berkeley Electric Cooperative shootout at Joseph P. Riley Park.

South Carolina improved to 5-0 and Spigner upped his record to 2-0, while Richmond dropped to 0-2. Spider starting pitcher Thomas Martin, 0-1, took the loss. South Carolina senior right-hander Lee Gronkiewicz earned his second save.

South Carolina meets Old Dominion Sunday in the final day of the shootout.

A single by Marcus McBeth, three walks that forced in a run, and a two RBI a single by Yaron Peters staked South Carolina to a 3-0 first inning lead. The Gamecocks made it 4-0 in the fourth inning on a walk, a hit batter, and an RBI single by Steve Thomas.

Richmond scored both of its runs in the fourth inning on a walk, a single by Manny Cicchiello and a double by Ryan Martin that drove in both runs.

Spigner struck out six and walked three during his seven innings of work. Tony Adler and Gronkiewicz each pitched an inning and each allowed one hit as Richmond and South Carolina collected only six hits apiece.

McBeth had two hits for South Carolina and Whittaker's double was the only Gamecock extra base hit. Martin had two hits for Richmond and his double was the only extra base blow by the Spiders.

SOUTH CAROLINA 300 100 000 – 4-6-1

RICHMOND 000 200 000 – 2-6-0

Spigner, Adler (8), Gronkiewicz (9) and Whittaker. Martin, Leonards (5), Lane (9) and Nathans.
W—Spigner (2-0). L—Martin (0-1). Save—Gronkiewicz (2). 2B—USC, Whittaker; UR, Martin.

GAME 6

Feb. 11, 2001

FIVE HOME RUNS POWER GAMECOCKS TO 16-3 WIN OVER OLD DOMINION

CHARLESTON, SC – Marcus McBeth and Brennan Dees hit two home runs and Garris Gonce also homered Sunday as South Carolina pounded out 17 hits in a 16-3 rout of Old Dominion in the Berkeley Electric Cooperative Shootout at Joseph P. Riley Park.

The Gamecocks improved their record to 6-0 while old Dominion dropped to 0-3. Left-hander Gary Bell, 2-0, picked up the win while J. D. Jackson, 0-1, was charged with the loss.

McBeth led off the South Carolina first inning with his fourth homer of the season and added his fifth, a two run shot, in the eighth inning when the Gamecocks scored seven times.

Dees, who also has five homers after six games, hit a two run shot in the fifth inning and a bases empty homer in the seventh. He also had a double and two singles for a five for five game. Dees scored four runs and drove in three.

Gonce hit a bases empty home run, his second of the season, in the seventh inning. He was hit by a pitch and walked and scored three runs.

Catcher Tim Whittaker, who entered the game in the fourth inning, had four hits in four at bats. He singled in the fourth inning and tied a school record for most doubles in a game with a two base hit in the sixth inning and a pair of doubles in the eighth when the Gamecocks sent 11 batters to the plate. Whittaker drove in four runs.

Old Dominion's first run came on a home run in the sixth inning by Ross Robertson. It was the first homer allowed by South Carolina's pitching staff this season. Old Dominion added two runs in the eighth on a walk, a single by Jesse Thomas and a triple by Brent Sollenberger, who had two of six hits for ODU.

OLD DOMINION 000 001 020 – 3-6-1

SOUTH CAROLINA 100 420 07x – 16-17-0

Jackeon, Tinkham (5), Davis (8), Hummel (8) and Silver, Mitchell (8). Bell, Wilson (7), Price (8), Marchbanks (9) and Powell, Whittaker (4), Nix (9). W—Bell (2-0). L—Jackson (0-1). Save—None. 2B—USC, Whittaker 3, Dees. 3B—ODU, Sollenberger. HR—ODU, Robertson (1); USC, McBeth 2(5), Dees 2(5), Gonce (3).

Feb. 16, 2001

BOUKNIGHT, TWO RELIEVERS, SHUT OUT DELAWARE STATE 10-0 ON TWO HITS

COLUMBIA, SC – Kip Bouknight and two relief pitchers shut out Delaware State 10-0, allowing just two hits Friday and Drew Meyer and Brennan Dees hit home runs in the opener of a three game college baseball series.

Bouknight allowed one hit, walked one and struck out six over seven innings to improve his season record to 3-0. He extended his school record for career victories to 38. The senior right-hander also established a fielding record for pitchers with seven putouts. In more than 100 years of baseball South Carolina had never before had a pitcher make more than three putouts in a game.

Seven times first baseman Trey Dyson fielded ground balls and flipped to Bouknight covering first base. The previous record for assists by a Gamecock first baseman was four.

South Carolina improved its record to 7-0 and Delaware State lost for the first time after four victories. The second game of the series is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Saturday. Delaware State starter Tim Valliancourt, 1-1, was Friday's losing pitcher.

South Carolina took a 1-0 first inning lead on a hit batter, two singles and an infield out and scored three unearned runs in the second inning on one hit and three Hornet errors. Valliancourt limited the Gamecocks to one hit over the next four innings but South Carolina broke the game open with four runs in the seventh and three in the eighth inning.

Meyer hit a line drive that hit the batter's background behind the centerfield fence with one out in the seventh inning. The hit was first ruled a two run double but after consultation was ruled a three run homer, the first by Meyer this season. Dees followed with his sixth home run in seven games, a long drive over the left field fence.

Meyer, hospitalized earlier this week with intestinal flu, did not start but entered the game in the top of the seventh. He added an eighth inning single. Dees also had two hits with a first inning single. South Carolina's only other extra base hit was a first inning double by Chris Plummer.

Both Delaware State hits were by third baseman Scott Martin. He singled to center field off Bouknight in the fourth inning and two left field in the ninth off left-hander Steven Bondurant. Blake Taylor pitched the eighth inning for South Carolina and walked one.

DELAWARE STATE 000 000 000 -- 0- 2-3

SOUTH CAROLINA 120 00043x -- 10-10-1

Bouknight, Taylor (8), Bondurant (9) and Whittaker, Powell (7). Valliancourt, Kilpatrick (7), Gordon (8) and Richardson. W—Bouknight (3-0). L—Vaillancourt (1-1). Save—None. 2B—USC, Plummer. HR—USC, Meyer (1), Dees (6).

Feb. 17, 2001

THREE SOLO HOMERS POWER SOUTH CAROLINA TO 7-2 WIN OVER DELAWARE STATE

COLUMBIA, SC – Solo home runs by Landon Powell, Bryon Jeffcoat and Brennan Dees were the big blows Saturday as South Carolina defeated Delaware State 7-2 in the second of a three game series to improve the Gamecock baseball record to 8-0.

Junior right-hander Chris Spigner scattered four hits over the first six innings and struck out seven Hornets to improve his personal record to 3-0. John Sterling, 1-1, the Delaware State starter, also allowed only four hits and struck out seven in six innings but was saddled with the loss.

Delaware State's record dropped to 4-2. The final game of the series is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Sunday at Sarge Frye Field.

South Carolina scored two unearned runs in the first inning. Marcus McBeth led off with a single to stretch his hitting streak to eight games. Following two fielder's choice outs, Tim Whittaker's pop up was dropped by Delaware State second baseman Mike August for an error. Tony Adler then struck out but catcher Roger Richardson dropped the ball and then threw wildly to first with two runs scoring on the play.

Powell made it 3-0 with his second home run of the season in the third inning and Jeffcoat hit his first in the fourth inning to make it 4-0.

Delaware State got on the scoreboard in the sixth inning on doubles by Malkum King and Phil Sullinger. However, South Carolina expanded the lead to 7-1 with three seventh inning runs on three hits, including a bases empty home run by Dees, his seventh in eight games this season. Whittaker also had his sixth double in the inning.

Delaware State's second run scored in the eighth inning and was unearned. Kelly Williams walked, moved to second on a wild pitch, to third on an infield out, and scored on a passed ball.

DELAWARE STATE 000 001 010 – 2-6-3

SOUTH CAROLINA 201 100 30x – 7-7-0

Sterling, O'Dea (7), Gordon (7) and Richardson. Spigner, Wilson (7), Price (8), Carter (9) and Powell, Nix (8). W—Spigner (3-0). L—Sterling (1-1). Save—None. 2B—DSU, King, Sullinger, August; USC, Whittaker. HR—USC, Powell (2), Jeffcoat (1), Dees (7).

GAME 9

Feb. 18, 2001

3 HITS, 3 RBI BY JEFFCOAT PACE SOUTH CAROLINA TO 12-2 WIN OVER DEL. STATE

COLUMBIA, SC – Bryon Jeffcoat drove in three runs with three hits, including a double, Sunday as South Carolina downed Delaware State to sweep a three game college baseball series.

South Carolina improved its record to 9-0 while Delaware State dropped to 4-3. Gary Bell, 3-0, pitched five innings and allowed three hits and one earned run to earn his third win of the season. Joe Brzeczek, 1-1, took the loss.

Jeffcoat, the South Carolina second baseman, drove in two third inning runs with a bases loaded single, doubled to drive in a run in the sixth inning, and beat out an infield hit as South Carolina scored five times in the eighth inning.

Marcus McBeth had two doubles in five at bats to stretch his hitting streak to nine games. He is the only Gamecock to hit safely in every game this season.

After Delaware State took a 1-0 lead in the top of the second inning – the first time that South Carolina has trailed this season – Tim Whittaker led off the bottom of the inning with his first home run. It was South Carolina's 20th homer in nine games.

Whittaker had a second RBI when he was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded in the third inning. South Carolina scored four times in that inning. Brennan Dees also had two RBI with a sacrifice fly in the sixth and a bases loaded walk in the eighth.

Adam Brown doubled in the Delaware State second and scored on a base hit by Josh Nelson. The Hornets registered their second run in the eighth inning. Kelly Williams walked and moved around on singles by Scott Martin and Phil Sullinger. Sullinger drove in the run.

Drew Meyer contributed two infield hits to South Carolina's 12 hit attack. Delaware State managed five hits off five South Carolina pitchers.

South Carolina's next action is a three game series at Sarge Frye Field with George Mason beginning Friday.

DELAWARE STATE 010 000 010 -- 2- 5-3

SOUTH CAROLINA 014 011 05x - 12-12-2

Brzeczek, Sullinger (7), Conroy (8) and Richardson. Bell, MacLane (6), Adler (8), Marchbanks (9), Gronkiewicz (9) and Whittaker, Powell (8). W—Bell (3-0). L—Brzeczek (1-1). Save—None. 2B—DSU, Brown; USC, McBeth 2, Jeffcoat. HR—USC, Whittaker (1).

Feb. 23, 2001

MCBETH'S 2 HOME RUNS, 6 RBI POWER SOUTH CAROLINA 9-7 OVER GEORGE MASON

COLUMBIA, SC – Marcus McBeth drove in six runs Friday with a grand slam home run in the sixth inning and a two run walk off homer in the bottom of the ninth as South Carolina came back from a 6-0 deficit to defeat George Mason 9-7 in the opener of a three game college baseball series.

The second game is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Saturday at Sarge Frye Field.

Lee Gronkiewicz, 1-0, the fifth South Carolina pitcher, was the winner as the fifth ranked Gamecocks won their tenth game without a loss. George Mason dropped to 1-3 with Jim Bolszjo, 0-1, the fourth Patriot pitcher, was the loser.

George Mason knocked 2000 National Player of the Year Kip Bouknight out with nine hits in the second and third innings to take a 6-0 lead. Bruce Baldwin drove in two second inning runs with a two out single and the Patriots scored four times on six hits before Bouknight departed with one out in the third.

Scott Yeager doubled and Brian Anderson hit a two run homer. Eddie Jordan and Robbie Robertson hit back to back doubles to make it 5-0. Singles by Brad Sandmyer and Adam Shorts plated the sixth run before Bruce Baldwin hit into a double play to end the uprising.

Bryon Jeffcoat hit his second home run of he season for South Carolina's first run in the third inning and the Gamecocks added one in the fifth. A walk to McBeth, single by Drew Meyer and a walk to Brennan Dees loaded the bases. Tim Whittaker was hit by a pitch to drive in a run to make it 6-2.

Successive singles by Tripp Kelly, Jeffcoat and pinch hitter Matt Riddle loaded the bases in the sixth and McBeth hit a drive over the left field fence for his first career grand slam and a 6-6 tie.

George Mason regained the lead, 7-6, in the top of the seventh on a walk and an RBI double by Jordan, but South Carolina tied it in the bottom of the inning. Garris Gonc walked, moved to second on a sacrifice bunt and scored on a base hit by Steve Thomas.

George Mason loaded the bases on three walks in the top of the ninth but Gronkiewicz pitched out of the jam when Sandmyer popped out to Thomas at third.

Jeffcoat walked to lead off the bottom of the ninth and moved to second on a bunt by Thomas. McBeth, who stretched his hitting streak to 10 games and has driven in 19 runs in 10 games, hit a drive over the center field fence to end the game. The homers were his sixth and seventh of the season, tying him with Brennan Dees for the team lead.

GEORGE MASON 024 000 100 – 7-11-1
SOUTH CAROLINA 001 014 102 – 9-11-0

Stiffler, Kawecki (5), Haney (6), Bolszjo (8) and Robertson. Bouknight, Adler (3), Taylor (8), MacLane (9), Gronkiewicz (9) and Whittaker. W—Gronkiewicz (1-0). L—Bolszjo (0-1). Save—None. 2B—GMU, Yeager, Robertson, Jordon 2; USC, Peters. HR—GMU, Anderson (1); USC, Jeffcoat (2), McBeth 2(7).

GAME 11

Feb. 24, 2001

BELL ALLOWS THREE HITS AS GAMECOCKS EDGE GEORGE MASON 1-0

COLUMBIA, SC – Gary Bell allowed three hits over 8 2/3 innings Saturday and South Carolina scratched out a fifth inning run to edge George Mason 1-0 to improve the Gamecock baseball record to 11-0.

George Mason dropped to 1-4. The third and final game of the series is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Sunday at Sarge Frye Field.

Bell, a junior left-hander, improved his record to 4-0 while closer Lee Gronkiewicz, who struck out Scott Yeager to end the game, earned his third save. Left-hander Travis Hardman, 1-1, took the loss despite allowing the Gamecocks only two hits in seven innings. However, he walked six and struck out only two.

Hardman held the Gamecocks hitless until Bryon Jeffcoat beat out a bunt to lead off the bottom of the fifth inning. Jeffcoat moved to second when Sheldon Brown walked and both runners moved up on a sacrifice bunt by Chris Plummer. Jeffcoat scored the game's only run on a ground out to third base by Marcus McBeth.

McBeth, who has driven in 20 runs in South Carolina's first 11 games, had his hitting streak halted after 10 games.

South Carolina's only hit after Jeffcoat's bunt was a two out sixth inning single by Tripp Kelly.

Jeff Palumbo led off the George Mason first inning with a single but was caught attempting to steal second base. Eddie Jordan led off the second with a double but Bell retired the next 21 George Mason batters before Bruce Baldwin singled to open the ninth inning.

Palumbo hit into a double play, second to short to first, to bring Bell within one out of a complete game shutout. However, Coach Ray Tanner went to his bullpen with Gronkiewicz. He walked pinch hitter Stephen Johnson to put the tying run on base but Yeager was called out on strikes to end the game.

GEORGE MASON 000 000 000 – 0-3-1

SOUTH CAROLINA 000 010 00x – 1-2-1

Hardman, Dooley (8) and Robertson. Bell, Gronkiewicz (9) and Powell, Whittaker (7). W—Bell (4-0). L—Hardman (1-1). Save—Gronkiewicz (3). 2B, GMU, Jordan.

GAME 12

Feb. 25, 2001

FRESHMAN MARCHBANKS PITCHES GAMECOCKS TO 9-1 WIN OVER GEORGE MASON

COLUMBIA, SC – Freshman left-hander David Marchbanks, in his first collegiate start, scattered four hits over 6 2/3 innings Sunday and South Carolina hit three home runs in a 9-1 college baseball win over George Mason.

South Carolina swept the three game series to improve its record to 12-0. George Mason dropped to 1-5 with right-hander Todd Simo, 0-2, charged with the loss. South Carolina's next action will be a two game weekend series against Clemson. Game time Saturday at Clemson is 3 p.m., with a 1:30 Sunday starting time in Columbia.

Tim Whittaker and Bryon Jeffcoat had three runs batted in each for the Gamecocks. Whittaker hit a two run homer, his second of the season, in the first inning and drove in a third run with a seventh inning double. Jeffcoat was two for two to raise his season average to .500. He hit his third home run with two men on base in the sixth inning and singled in the eighth. Jeffcoat also was hit by a pitch and walked and scored twice.

Garris Gonce hit a bases empty home run, his third of the season, to lead off the South Carolina second inning.

Eddie Jordan had two of George Mason's four hits, a second inning double and a bases empty home run in the seventh which accounted for the only Patriot run. Other George Mason hits included a single by Bruce Baldwin in the fifth inning and an infield hit by Stephen Johnson in the sixth.

Left-hander Brett Price relieved Marchbanks with two out in the seventh inning and struck out two in 1 1/3 innings. John Wesley pitched the ninth and struck out one.

Marcus McBeth had two doubles in the nine hit South Carolina attack. The other Gamecock hits were a single by Brennan Dees and a double by Trey Dyson.

GEORGE MASON 000 000 100 – 1-4-0
SOUTH CAROLINA 210 023 10x – 9-9-0

Simo, Lipcius (7) and Robertson. Marchbanks, Price (7), Wesley (9) and Whittaker, Powell (8), Nix (9). W—Marchbanks (1-0). L—Simo (0-2). Save—None. 2B—GMU, Jordan; USC, McBeth 2, Whittaker, Dyson. HR—GMU, Jordan (1); USC, Whittaker (2), Gonce (3), Jeffcoat (3).

GAME 13

March 3, 2001

JEFFCOAT, WHITTAKER COMBINE FOR 15 RBI AS GAMECOCKS ROUT CLEMSON 21-8.

CLEMSON, SC – Bryon Jeffcoat and Tim Whittaker drove in 15 runs, including a grand slam home run apiece, Saturday and South Carolina scored 12 runs in the first two innings in coasting to a 21-8 baseball win over Clemson.

The 13-0 Gamecocks and 6-4 Tigers were scheduled to meet again at 1:30 p.m., Sunday at Sarge Frye Field in Columbia. Two other games in the rivalry are scheduled this season, April 18 in Columbia and April 25 at Clemson.

Golden Spikes Award winner Kip Bouknight, 4-0, was the winning pitcher despite having his second consecutive shaky outing. Bouknight pitched six innings, allowed eight hits, six earned runs, walked five and struck out five in upping his career record to 39-8. Jarrod Schmidt, 1-2, the first of five Clemson pitchers, lasted only two thirds of the inning and was charged with the loss.

Schmidt walked the first three Gamecocks he faced, gave up the grand slam to Whittaker, retired Garris Gonce on a strikeout and Trey Dyson on a fly ball before a bases empty homer by Tripp Kelly that drove the Clemson starter from the mound.

The game was played under damp, overcast conditions with intermittent rain.

Jeffcoat tied a school record with three home runs including a bases loaded second inning shot, a three run homer in the seventh inning and a bases empty blast in the ninth. His eight runs batted in were one shy of the school record.

Whittaker hit a bases loaded first inning home run to drive in South Carolina's first four runs and came up with the bases again loaded in the second inning. He lined a double to right field to clear the bases. Whittaker also had a single in the third inning. His three for five day boosted his season average to .459. Whittaker has eight doubles, three home runs and 18 RBI.

Jeffcoat's numbers are even more impressive. His five hits in six at bats against Clemson boosted his team leading average to .556. The senior second baseman has four doubles, six home runs and 22 RBI.

First baseman Kelly, who missed the first six games this season with a broken bone in his right wrist, broke out of his mini slump with three hits, including his first homer of the year, and drove in three runs. Shortstop Drew Meyer also homered for South Carolina as the Gamecocks collected 18 hits. Gonce had two doubles.

Clemson managed 12 hits off the combined efforts of Bouknight and Blake Taylor, who worked the final three innings to pick up his first save as a Gamecock.

Four of Clemson's hits were home runs, three of them with the bases empty and one with one runner on base. Ryan Riley led off the Tiger first inning with a home run and Jeff Baker hit a two run shot off Bouknight in the sixth inning. Jarrod Schmidt, the Clemson DH, and first baseman Michael Johnson hit back to back one out homers off Taylor in the bottom of the ninth inning.

SOUTH CAROLINA 571 201 401 – 21-18-1

CLEMSON 202 002 002 – 8-12-2

Bouknight, Taylor (7) and Whittaker. Schmidt, Henrie (1), Lynn (2), Harrelson (3), Lamur (7) and Miller, Pizer (7). W—Bouknight (4-0). L—Schmidt (1-2). Save—Taylor (1). 2B—USC, Gonce 2, Whittaker; CU, Miller, Greene. HR—USC, Jeffcoat 3(6), Whittaker (3), Kelly (1), Meyer (2).

GAME 14

March 4, 2001

CODER'S FOUR RBI PACE CLEMSON TO 7-4 WIN OVER SOUTH CAROLINA

COLUMBIA, SC – Chad Coder drove in four runs and Jeff Baker had five hits Sunday as Clemson defeated South Carolina 7-4 to even the season baseball series at one game apiece.

Coder hit a three run home run to stake the Tigers to a 3-0 first inning lead and drove in another run with a fifth inning single. Baker singled in his first four at bats and hit a bases empty home run in the ninth inning for the final Clemson run. Michael Johnson also homered for the Tigers.

Nick Glaser, who relieved starter Steve Reba in the fifth inning, was credited with his first win of the season against no losses. Josh Cram earned his second save. South Carolina starter Gary Bell suffered his first loss after four wins. South Carolina, 13-1, saw its unbeaten streak come to an end while Clemson improved to 7-4.

South Carolina won 21-8 at Clemson on Saturday and the two in-state rivals will meet twice in April. Sunday's game was played before a Sarge Frye Field record crowd of 6,727.

Singles by Casey Stone and Baker set up Coder's two out first inning home run. South Carolina got on the scoreboard in the fourth inning on two walks and an RBI single by Landon Powell but Clemson answered in the fifth when Stone, who was hit by a pitch, scored on Coder's single.

South Carolina cut the lead to 4-3 with two runs in the bottom of the fifth on hits by Marcus McBeth and Drew Meyer, two stolen bases, and a ground out. Johnson's home run widened the lead to 5-3 in the sixth but South Carolina again cut the deficit to one with a run in the bottom of the seventh. McBeth reached on a two base error by Baker and scored on Whittaker's ground out.

However, the Tigers added a run in the eighth on a walk, sacrifice and Stone's RBI single and another in the ninth on Baker's home run.

CLEMSON 300 011 011 – 7-12-2

SOUTH CAROLINA 000 120 100 – 4- 7-2

Reba, Glaser (5), Cram (7) and Pyzik. Bell, Spigner (6), Price (7), Adler (7), Gronkiewicz (8) and Powell, Whittaker (9). W—Glaser (1-0). L—Ball (4-1). Save—Cram (1). 2B—CU, Riley. HR—CU, Coder (3), Baker (5), Johnson (5).

GAME 15

March 7, 2001

NORMAN THREE HITS PACE FURMAN TO 5-4 UPSET WIN OVER SOUTH CAROLINA

COLUMBIA, SC – Derek Norman had three hits, including a pair of doubles, and drove in two runs Wednesday night to lead Furman to a 5-4 upset over fifth ranked South Carolina.

The Paladins improved to 12-6 while South Carolina dropped its second consecutive decision after opening the season with a 13 game winning streak. Tom Mastny, 2-2, the second of four Furman pitchers, was the winner while freshman lefthander David Marchbanks, 1-1, took the loss. Rob Purvis pitched the final two innings for Furman to earn his first save.

South Carolina jumped out to a 2-0 lead on back to back first inning home runs by Brennan Dees and Tim Whittaker but Furman batted around in the third inning to score three runs and drive Marchbanks from the mound.

Danny Rueckel opened the inning with a single and with one out Adam Etherington singled. After a fielder's choice Norman delivered a two run double to tie the score. Norman scored the go ahead run on a Gamecock error.

Furman stretched its lead to 5-2 with single runs in the fifth and seventh innings. With one out in the fifth Norman doubled for the second time, move to third on an infield hit by Chris Valdes and scored on a wild pitch. Norman's third hit, a sacrifice and an RBI single by Dominic Frankey scored the final Paladin run.

Whittaker hit his second homer of the game and fifth of the season after Dees had beaten out an infield hit in the eighth inning. The first inning homer by Dees was his eighth of the season.

Furman out hit South Carolina 9-7, paced by Norman's three hits and two by Danny Rueckel.

Dees and Whittaker had two hits for the Gamecocks.

South Carolina begins Southeastern Conference play this weekend with a three game series at Sarge Frye Field against the Arkansas Razorbacks. Game times are 7 p.m., Friday, 4 p.m., Saturday, and 1:30 p.m., Sunday.

FURMAN 003 010 100 – 5-9-0

SOUTH CAROLINA 200 000 020 – 4-7-2

Stallsmith, Mastny (4), Dugan (6), Purvis (8) and Maderer. Marchbanks, Wilson (3), Taylor (6), Gronkiewicz (9) and Whittaker. W—Mastny (2-2). L—Marchbanks (1-1). Save—Purvis (1). 2B—FU, Norman 2, Rueckel; USC, Melillo. HR—USC, Whittaker 2(5), Dees (8).

GAME 16

March 9, 2001

GAMECOCK SCORE 12 IN 6TH INNING TO DOWN ARKANSAS 16-5

COLUMBIA, SC – Tripp Kelly drove in five runs with a grand slam homer and an RBI single Friday night in a 12 run sixth inning as South Carolina rallied to defeat Arkansas 16-5 in the first game of a Southeastern Conference baseball series.

Held to one hit and trailing 5-2 after five innings, the Gamecocks sent 17 batters to the plate in the sixth. South Carolina collected nine hits, four walks and one hit batter in the inning. Tim Whittaker led off with a double, Yaron Peters was hit by a pitch and Garris Gonce singled to load the bases. Kelly hit a long drive over the left field fence to give South Carolina a 6-5 lead. Before the inning ended the Gamecocks added eight more runs to lead 14-5. The grand slam was Kelly's second homer of the season.

South Carolina added two runs in the eighth inning on a homer by Bryon Jeffcoat with a runner on base. It was Jeffcoat's seventh of the season.

Tony Adler, 1-0, who allowed only one infield hit over 4 1/3 innings in relief of starter Kip Bouknight, was the winning pitcher. Tommy MacLane pitched the ninth and struck out the side.

Arkansas starter Lane Berry held the Gamecocks to one hit, a leadoff double in the first inning by Marcus McBeth, over the first five innings but loaded the bases with none out in the sixth. He was relieved by Josh Merryman who gave up the Kelly grand slam and was charged with the loss to drop his record to 2-1.

Bouknight, winner of the Golden Spikes Award as the nation's best collegiate player last year, was rocked for seven hits and five runs in 3 2/3 innings. He walked six and hit one batter and left with the Gamecocks trailing 5-2.

South Carolina finished with 12 hits and took advantage of 10 walks by four Arkansas pitchers. Whittaker, Kelly, Gonce and Michael Floyd had two hits. McBeth, Whittaker, Floyd and Chris Plummer had doubles.

Brett Hagedorn, Andrew Wishy and Cody Clark had two hits for Arkansas. Both of Wishy's hits were doubles and Scott Crossett also doubled for the Razorbacks.

The win improved South Carolina's record to 14-2 overall and 1-0 in the conference. Arkansas dropped to 10-7, 0-1. The second game of the series is scheduled for 4 p.m., Saturday at Sarge Frye Field.

ARKANSAS 021 200 000 -- 5-8-1

SOUTH CAROLINA 110 00(12) 02x - 16-12-0

Berry, Merryman (6), McCrotty (6), Woods (6) and Graves, Toops (8). Bouknight, Adler (4), MacLane (9) and Whittaker, Powell (9). W—Adler (1-0). L—Merryman (2-1). Save—None. 2B—UA, Wishy 2, Crossett; USC, McBeth, Whittaker, Floyd, Plummer. HR—USC, Kelly (2), Jeffcoat (7).

March 10, 2001

BELL WINS 5TH, KELLY, WHITTAKER HOMER IN 7-4 GAMECOCK WIN

COLUMBIA, SC – Gary Bell pitched 7 2/3 strong innings Saturday and Tripp Kelly and Tim Whittaker hit home runs to pace fifth ranked South Carolina to a 7-4 Southeastern Conference baseball win over Arkansas.

The Gamecocks, 15-2 and 2-0 in the SEC, took a 2-0 lead in the series while Arkansas fell to 10-8, 0-2. The final game in the series is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Sunday at Sarge Frye Field.

Bell scattered eight hits, all singles, struck out eight and walked two. He allowed two runs, only one of them earned, in improving his record to 5-1. Charlie Isaacson, 2-3, the Arkansas starter, took the loss.

Arkansas led 2-1 after 2 1/2 innings when Kelly led off the bottom of the third with his third home run and second of the series. Trey Dyson was credited with a double when Arkansas centerfielder Cliff Crouse misjudged his line drive. Dyson moved to third on a ground out and scored on a sacrifice fly by Bryon Jeffcoat to give the Gamecocks a 3-2 lead.

South Carolina added two runs in the fifth inning on one hit, three Razorback errors and three walks to lead 5-2. Whittaker made it 7-2 with a two run homer, his sixth of the season, in the seventh inning.

Arkansas scored twice off the Gamecock bullpen in the ninth inning on three hits, including an RBI double by Jeff Fletcher and a sacrifice fly but Lee Gronkiewicz struck out Brett Hagedorn to end the game.

Arkansas out hit South Carolina 11-6, but had only one extra base hit. In addition to the home runs the Gamecocks got doubles from Garris Gonce and Dyson. Gonce was the only South Carolina player with two hits. Luke Weatherford, Kyle Washburn and Michael Conner had two hits for Arkansas.

Arkansas committed five errors to two by South Carolina.

ARKANSAS 100 100 002 – 4-11-5

SOUTH CAROLINA 010 220 20x – 7-6-2

Isaacson, Murphy (7), Leraris (7) and Graves, Washburn (8). Bell, Taylor (8), Price (9), Gronkiewicz (9) and Whittaker. W—Bell (5-1). L—Isaacson (2-3). Save—None. 2B—UA, Fletcher; USC, Gonce, Dyson. HR—USC, Kelly (3), Whittaker (6).

March 11, 2001

WHITTAKER, KELLY, MCBETH HOMER IN 9-3 SOUTH CAROLINA SEC WIN

COLUMBIA, SC – Tim Whittaker, Tripp Kelly and Marcus McBeth hit home runs Sunday and Whittaker and McBeth drove in three runs apiece to lead South Carolina to a 9-3 win over Arkansas and a sweep of a three game Southeastern Conference baseball series.

The fifth ranked Gamecocks improved to 16-2, 3-0 in the SEC, while Arkansas dropped to 10-9, 0-3. Junior right-hander Chris Spigner, 4-0, pitched 5 2/3 innings and allowed seven hits and one run to earn the win. Freshman right-hander Scott Roehl, 1-1, took the loss.

McBeth was a single shy of hitting for the cycle. He doubled in the first inning, tripled to drive in a run in the fourth, and hit a two run home run, his eighth of the season, in the eighth inning. He was three for five.

Whittaker also went three for five. He singled in the first inning, hit his seventh homer with a teammate on base in the third inning, and doubled in the fourth. The senior catcher/DH has 10 doubles this season.

Kelly was one for four but homered for the third time in the three game series. He has four home runs this season.

Chris Plummer had two of South Carolina's 12 hits. Garris Gonce had a triple and Bryon Jeffcoat a double.

Arkansas collected 11 hits, including four doubles. They were by Jeff Hoefler, Brian Kirby, Andrew Wishy and Wes McCrotty. Jeff Fletcher had three hits for the Razorbacks and Kyle Washburn had two.

South Carolina has two non-conference games scheduled this week, Tuesday against Davidson and Wednesday against Butler before traveling to Knoxville for a weekend SEC series with Tennessee.

ARKANSAS 000 100 110 – 3-11-2

SOUTH CAROLINA 013 300 02x – 9-12-2

Roehl, Rankin (4), Merryman (7), Manatt (8), Murphy (8) and Washburn. Spigner, Price (6), Gronkiewicz (8) and Powell. W—Spigner (4-0). L—Roehl (1-1). Save—None. 2B—UA, Hoefler, Kirby, Wishy, McCrotty; USC, McBeth, Whittaker, Jeffcoat. 3B—USC, Gonce, McBeth. HR—USC, Whittaker (7), Kelly (4), McBeth (8).

GAME 19

March 13, 2001

FLOYD HITS FOR CYCLE IN 19-1 GAMECOCK WIN OVER DAVIDSON

COLUMBIA, SC – Michael Floyd hit for the cycle to lead a 21 hit attack Tuesday night and South Carolina hit five home runs in a 19-1 non-conference baseball win over Davidson.

The second ranked Gamecocks improved to 17-2 and Davidson dropped to 7-11. Seven South Carolina pitchers held the Wildcats to two hits in a pre-arranged multi-pitcher game with starter Tommy MacLane (1-0) getting the win. Jeremiah Parvin (0-3) was charged with the loss.

Floyd, a transfer from Virginia, walked in the second inning, hit his first home run in the fourth, singled in the fifth, doubled in the sixth and tripled in the seventh to complete the cycle. He drove in three runs.

Chris Plummer homered twice, a three run shot in the fourth inning and a bases empty homer in the seventh. Plummer has three home runs this season. He also doubled in the fifth, drove in four runs and scored three. Drew Meyer had four hits in five at bats, including a first inning triple, and drove in three.

Tim Whittaker hit his eighth home run with a runner on base in the third inning. Pinch hitter Yaron Peters hit a three run homer, his first, in the seventh inning.

Trey Dyson had two hits, including a double and Matt Riddle also had two hits as the Gamecocks used 24 players in the game.

Davidson scored its lone run in the sixth inning. Walks to Tim Frend and James Marino set up a run scoring two out single by Billy Ryan. Davidson's only other hit was a one out double in the ninth inning by pinch hitter Chris Emond. John Wesley, the seventh South Carolina pitcher, struck out the next two batters to end the game.

South Carolina meets Butler at 7 p.m., Wednesday at Sarge Frye Field before traveling to Knoxville for a three game Southeastern Conference series with Tennessee.

DAVIDSON 000 001 000 – 1-2-1

SOUTH CAROLINA 202 522 51x – 19-21-0

Parvin, Wells (5), Choate (7), Dellinger (7), Frend (8) and Marino. MacLane, Adler (4), Whetstone (5), Bondurant (6), Carter (7), Bouknight (8), Wesley (9) and Whittaker, Powell (7). W—MacLane (1-0). L—Parvin (0-3). Save—None. 2B—DAV, Emond; USC, Floyd, Dyson, Plummer. 3B—USC, Meyer, Floyd. HR—USC, Plummer 2(3), Whittaker (8), Floyd (1), Peters (1).

GAME 20

March 14, 2001

MARCHBANKS, TWO RELIEVERS PITCH SHUTOUT AS GAMECOCKS EDGE BUTLER 1-0

COLUMBIA, SC – Freshman left-hander David Marchbanks and two relievers combined to shut out Butler Wednesday night and South Carolina scratched out a fourth inning run for a 1-0 non-conference baseball win.

Marchbanks, 2-1, struck out eight and walked two batters in six innings of work. He allowed all six Butler hits. Blake Taylor struck out three in two innings and Lee Gronkiewicz earned his fourth save by striking out two in the ninth inning. He walked one.

Second ranked South Carolina improved to 18-2 while Butler dropped to 5-4. Pat Neshek, 0-1, took the loss. He struck out 10 Gamecocks, walked three and allowed five hits in seven innings. There were no extra base hits in the game and neither defense committed an error.

Tim Whittaker drew a walk with one out in the South Carolina fourth inning. Whittaker moved to second on a single by Garris Gonce and scored when a blooper by Michael Floyd fell in right field for a hit.

Rex Eaton walked to lead off the Butler fifth inning and moved to second on Paul Beck's one out single. With two outs Jeff Steele singled but South Carolina center fielder Marcus McBeth's perfect throw cut down Eaton at the plate. Butler had only two base runners after that, a two out single in the sixth inning by Tim Marks and a two out walk to Tony Stay in the ninth.

McBeth, Gonce, Floyd, Tripp Kelly and Bryon Jeffcoat had one hit apiece for South Carolina. Marks and Beck had two hits each for Butler. The other Bulldog hits were by Jeff Steele and Eaton.

South Carolina travels to Knoxville for a showdown battle for the Southeastern Conference Eastern Division lead this weekend. Both teams are 18-2 overall and 3-0 in conference play. Game times are 7 p.m., Friday and 2 p.m., Saturday and Sunday.

BUTLER 000 000 000 – 0-6-0

SOUTH CAROLINA 000 100 00x – 1-5-0

Neshek, Walther (8) and Olszta. Marchbanks, Taylor (7), Gronkiewicz (9) and Whittaker. W—Marchbanks (2-1). L—Neshek (0-1). Save—Gronkiewicz (4).

GAME 21

March 16, 2001

BOUKNIGHT TWO HITS TENNESSEE IN 6-0 GAMECOCK WIN

KNOXVILLE, TENN. — Kip Bouknight regained the form that made him last year's top collegiate baseball player and took a no hitter into the eighth inning Friday night as South Carolina defeated Tennessee 6-0 in the opening game of a showdown series for the Southeastern Conference Eastern Division lead.

The second ranked Gamecocks and 19th ranked Vols entered the series with identical 18-2 records, 3-0 in conference games. The second game of the three game set is scheduled for 2 p.m., Saturday at Lindsey Nelson Stadium.

Bouknight, winner of the Golden Spikes Award as the nation's best player after compiling a 17-1 record last year, improved his 2001 mark to 5-0 in posting his 40th career win. The senior from Gaston, S. C., has a 40-8 record over the past four seasons. Bouknight didn't allow a hit until Chris Burke lined a single to left field with two outs in the eighth inning. Stevie Daniel followed with a single but Bouknight retired Jeff Christensen to end the inning.

He turned the mound over to Tony Adler who retired Tennessee in order in the ninth inning with one strikeout. Bouknight had struggled in his last three starts, a win over Clemson and no decision starts against George Mason and Arkansas in games the Gamecocks rallied to win. Against Tennessee he showed the mound magic that has dominated the Southeastern Conference for more than three years. No Tennessee base runner advanced past second base.

Bouknight walked four batters and struck out seven to increase his career strikeout total to 390, just two shy of the school record 392 set by Earl Bass, 1972-75. Tennessee starter Brian Gates, 3-2, was charged with the loss.

South Carolina took a 1-0 lead with an unearned run in the second inning on one hit and two Tennessee errors. The Gamecocks added two runs in the fourth on a walk to Brennan Dees who stole second and third and scored when Tennessee catcher Javi Herrera threw wildly to third base. A single by Bryon Jeffcoat, two wild pitches and an RBI hit by Chris Plummer drove in the other run.

Tim Whittaker, who had walked, scored on a double by Garris Gonce in the fifth inning. Whittaker hit his ninth home run of the season with Marcus McBeth on base in the seventh inning to complete the scoring.

Gonce and Drew Meyer each had two hits in South Carolina's eight hit attack.

SOUTH CAROLINA 010 210 200 — 6-8-0

TENNESSEE 000 000 000 — 0-2-3

Gates, Samuels (7) and Herrera, Bibee (8). Bouknight, Adler (9) and Whittaker, W—Bouknight (5-0). L—Gates (3-2). Save—None. 2B—USC, Gonce. HR—USC, Whittaker (9).

GAME 22

March 17, 2001

FIVE RUN TENNESSEE SEVENTH INNING DOES IN GAMECOCKS 5-2

KNOXVILLE, TENN. -- Tennessee ended a run of 27 consecutive scoreless innings by South Carolina's pitching staff Saturday with a five run seventh inning outburst that downed the second ranked Gamecocks 5-2 and evened a Southeastern Conference baseball series at one game apiece.

The rubber game of the series is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Sunday at Lindsey Nelson Stadium. The loss dropped South Carolina to 19-3, 4-1 in the SEC. Tennessee, 19th ranked, has an identical record.

Tennessee starter Wyatt Allen (4-1) was credited with the win while South Carolina left-hander Gary Bell (5-2) took the loss.

South Carolina won the series opener 6-0 Friday night on the two hit shutout pitching of Kip Bouknight and had shut out Butler 1-0 in a non-conference game Wednesday. Davidson scored in the sixth inning of a Tuesday 19-1 loss to the Gamecocks. In Saturday's game South Carolina held a 2-0 lead after shutting Tennessee down on three hits through six innings.

Kris Bennett led off the Tennessee seventh with a base hit. After Ryan Case popped out Matt Sternberg blooped a single to center field, advancing Bennett to third. Pinch hitter Hal Bibee, Jr., singled to left, scoring Bennett.

South Carolina right-hander Tony Adler relieved Bell but faced only three batters, retiring none. Pinch hitter Justin Parker singled, driving in a run to tie the score. Chris Burke doubled, driving in the go ahead run. Stevie Daniel was intentionally walked to load the bases. Brett Price relieved Adler and surrendered a sacrifice fly to Jeff Christensen to make the score 4-2. Blake Taylor relieved Price and Dan Wilson blooped a hit over the Gamecock infield to drive in the fifth run of the inning.

South Carolina took a 1-0 first inning lead on an infield hit by Drew Meyer and a run batted in double by Garris Gonc. The Gamecocks made it 2-0 in the fifth inning when Marcus McBeth walked, stole second base and scored on a second double by Gonc.

Meyer and Gonc had two hits apiece for South Carolina. Burke and Bibee had two each for Tennessee. Tennessee out hit South Carolina 11-8 with Matt Sternberg contributing a double.

SOUTH CAROLINA 100 010 000 - 2-8-0
TENNESSEE 000 000 50x -5-11-0

Bell, Adler (7), Price (7), Taylor (7), Wesley (8) and Powell. Allen, Hicklin (8) and Herrera, Bibee (8).
W—Allen (4-1). L—Bell (5-2). Save—Hicklin (2). 2B—USC, Gonc 2; UT, Burke, Sternberg.

GAME 23

March 17, 2001

TENNESSEE DOWNS SOUTH CAROLINA 5-2 TO WIN SEC BASEBALL SERIES

KNOXVILLE, TENN. — Tennessee capitalized on some sloppy defense by South Carolina in the first two innings Sunday to take a 4-1 lead on the way to a 5-3 victory that gave the 19th ranked Volunteers sole possession of first place in the Eastern Division of the Southeastern Conference.

The Vols improved to 20-3 overall, 5-1 in the SEC while the second ranked Gamecocks dropped to 19-4, 4-2 and dropped into second place in the division. Tennessee won the series two games to one.

Brandon Crowe (4-0) worked seven innings for Tennessee to earn the win while Chris Spigner (4-1) took the loss. It was the first career defeat for the Gamecock junior who came into the game 9-0 over three seasons.

Chris Burke started the Tennessee first inning when his wind blown deep fly ball eluded South Carolina right fielder for a triple. Stevie Daniel reached on a two base throwing error by South Carolina third baseman Steve Thomas. Burke scored on the play. After a strikeout and a walk, Kris Bennett singled to score Daniel. Dennis Gomez drove in Dan Wilson, who had walked. For the third run of the inning.

South Carolina got a run back in the second inning when Garris Goncè doubles, moved to third on a hit by Brennan Dees, and scored on a double by Bryon Jeffcoat. However, Dees was stranded at third and Jeffcoat at second.

In the bottom of the second inning Javi Herrera reached on an error and after two walks loaded the bases with two outs, Herrera scored on an infield hit by Wilson to make the score 4-1. South Carolina narrowed the gap to 4-2 in the third inning. Michael Floyd doubled and scored on a base hit by Tim Whittaker.

Tennessee scored in the sixth inning when three walks loaded the bases and Justin Parker scored on a sacrifice fly by Wilson. South Carolina scored its final run in the seventh inning. Drew Meyer walked. Advanced to third on a hit by Michael Floyd, and came home on a sacrifice fly by Whittaker.

The Gamecocks threatened to tie the score with two outs in the ninth inning. Meyer walked and Goncè was hit by a pitch. Pinch hitter Tony Adler hit a long drive to right center field but Tennessee right fielder Wilson made a back handed running catch to end the game.

South Carolina out hit the Volunteers 10-4, but Tennessee capitalized on the misplays and eight bases on balls. Goncè had three of South Carolina's hits and was seven of 12 in the series, including four doubles. Floyd had two hits for South Carolina.

SOUTH CAROLINA 011 000 100 - 3-10-3

TENNESSEE 310 001 00x - 5-4-0

Spigner, Gronkiewicz (6) and Whittaker. Crowe, Samuels (8), Bertolino (9) and Herrera. W—Crowe (4-0). L—Spigner (4-1) Save—Samuels (1). 2B—USC, Floyd, Goncè, Jeffcoat. 3B—UT, Burke.

March 23, 2001

BOUKNIGHT SETS CAREER STRIKEOUT RECORD, USC DEFEATS VANDERBILT 4-1

COLUMBIA, SC – Kip Bouknight set a school career strikeout record and improved his season record to 6-0 Friday night as South Carolina defeated Vanderbilt 4-1 in the first game of a weekend Southeastern Conference baseball series.

The second of the three game series is scheduled for 4 p.m., Saturday at Sarge Frye Field.

Bouknight, last year's Golden Spikes Award winner as the nation's top collegiate player, struck out 11 in 7 1/3 innings to increase his career total to 401. The old record was 392 by Earl Bass, 1972-75. Bouknight surpassed that mark in the second inning when Vanderbilt's John Kaye was called out after the South Carolina senior right-hander had fanned two in the first inning to tie the record.

South Carolina improved its record to 20-4 overall, 5-2 in the Southeastern Conference in defeating Vanderbilt for the 12th consecutive time over the past four years. The Commodores dropped to 15-8, 4-3. Chris Maultsby, 4-3, was charged with the loss. He allowed 13 hits over 6 2/3 innings. Lee Gronkiewicz pitched 1 2/3 innings in relief of Bouknight to earn his fifth save. He allowed one infield hit.

South Carolina scratched out single runs in the second, third, fifth and seventh innings to claim the victory while Vanderbilt scored in the eighth inning to end a string of consecutive scoreless innings pitched by Bouknight at 16. Bouknight allowed ~~six~~^{five} hits, walked four and hit one batter as he improved his career record to 41-8.

Tripp Kelly tripled to lead off the South Carolina second inning and scored on a sacrifice fly by Tony Adler. Garris Gonce, who stretched a personal hitting streak to eight games, drove in a run in the third inning and another in the fifth with base hits. Brennan Dees singled to lead off the third, moved to third on two grounds outs, and was driven home by Gonce. Michael Floyd doubled in the fifth and scored on the second single by Gonce.

Marcus McBeth tied a school record held by 15 other South Carolina players when he doubled his first three times at bat.

Kevin Geshke was hit by a Bouknight pitch to open the top of the eighth inning. Geshke scored on a double by Ulises Cabrera to avoid a shutout. Bouknight then struck out Worth Scott for the third time, the 11th of the game by the Gamecock right-hander, before being relieved by Gronkiewicz.

Dees, Gonce and Adler had two hits each and McBeth three in a 13 hit South Carolina attack. Vanderbilt had six hits by six difference players with Cabrera and Kyle Flubacker each having a double.

VANDERBILT 000 000 010 – 1-6-0

SOUTH CAROLINA 011 010 10x – 4-13-0

Maultsby, Blue (7) and Douillard. Bouknight, Gronkiewicz (8) and Whittaker. W—Bouknight (6-0).

L—Maultsby (4-3). Save—Gronkiewicz (5). 2B—VU, Cabrera, Flubacker; USC, McBeth 3, Floyd.

3B—USC, Kelly.

GAME 25

March 24, 2001

THREE GAMECOCKS HOMER IN 7-1 SEC WIN OVER VANDERBILT

COLUMBIA, SC – Three Gamecocks hit home runs in a 13 hit attack Saturday as South Carolina defeated Vanderbilt 7-1 in the second game of a Southeastern Conference baseball series.

The Gamecocks will go for a three game sweep in the final game at 1:30 p.m., Sunday at Sarge Frye Field. The win improved fifth ranked South Carolina's record to 21-4 overall, 6-2 in the SEC. Vanderbilt dropped to 15-9, 4-4.

Junior left-hander Gary Bell, 6-2, pitched 5 1/3 innings and allowed seven hits, all singles, to claim the win. Vanderbilt starter Jeff Little, 3-2, was charged with the loss.

Tony Adler started the South Carolina scoring with his first home run leading off the bottom of the second inning. The Gamecocks added five runs on five third inning hits. The big blows were a two RBI double by Garris Gonce and a two run homer by Bryon Jeffcoat, his eighth of the season.

Tim Whittaker completed the South Carolina scoring with his 10th home run in the seventh inning.

Vanderbilt avoided a shutout when Bell walked Kyle Flubacker with the bases loaded in the fifth inning. Chris Broadus singled, Worth Scott walked and Kevin Geshke beat out an infield hit to load the bases. All eight of Vanderbilt's hits were singles and the Commodores left 13 runners stranded, including the bases loaded in the fifth, eighth and ninth innings.

Jeffcoat had three hits, including a double and a single to go with his homer and stretched his hitting streak to eight games. Gonce stretched his streak to nine games with two hits, including a double. Whittaker and Brennan Dees also had two hits for South Carolina. Marcus McBeth and Landon Powell had doubles for the Gamecocks.

Geshke, Broadus and Ashley Freeman had two hits apiece to account for three fourths of Vanderbilt's offense.

VANDERBILT 000 010 000 – 1-8-0

SOUTH CAROLINA 015 000 10x – 7-13-0

Little, Bennett (7) and Wallace, Douillard (8). Bell, Taylor (6), Price (8), Adler (8) and Powell, Whittaker (8). W—Bell (6-2). L—Little (3-2). Save—None. 2B—USC, Powell, Gonce, McBeth, Jeffcoat. HR—USC, Adler (1), Jeffcoat (8), Whittaker (10).

March 25, 2001

GRAND SLAM HOMERS SPARK SOUTH CAROLINA TO SWEEP OF VANDERBILT

COLUMBIA, SC – Tim Whittaker and Marcus McBeth hit grand slam home runs Sunday as South Carolina defeated Vanderbilt 13-1 to sweep a three game Southeastern Conference baseball series.

Fifth ranked South Carolina improved its record to 22-4 overall, 7-2 in the SEC, while Vanderbilt fell to 15-10, 4-5.

Chris Spigner, 5-1, pitched 5 1/3 innings to get the win. He allowed four hits, struck out one and walked five. Vanderbilt's run occurred in the fifth inning when Spigner walked the bases loaded and wild pitched a run home. Steven Faulkner, 3-1, was charged with the loss.

Consecutive doubles by Garris Gonce, Michael Floyd and Tripp Kelly started a seven run South Carolina second inning climaxed by Whittaker's second bases loaded home run of the season. It was his 11th homer. South Carolina collected seven hits in the inning, including a second double by Gonce.

Three walks loaded the bases in the bottom of the third inning and McBeth greeted relief pitcher Taylor Childress with his second grand slam of the year. It was his ninth home run of the season.

Tripp Kelly hit a bases empty homer, his fifth, in the sixth inning. Kelly also had a double, a single a walk and scored four runs for a perfect day at the plate. McBeth and Drew Meyer also had three hits as the Gamecocks pounded five Vanderbilt pitchers for 15 hits. McBeth had two singles to go with his homer and Meyer had a double and two singles.

The two doubles by Gonce stretched his hitting streak to 10 games. Bryon Jeffcoat had a double to stretch his streak to nine games.

Vanderbilt managed five hits by five different players, with a double by Chris Broadus the only Commodore extra base hit.

The South Carolina pitching staff allowed one run in each game of the series to lower the staff earned run average to 2.44 in 232 innings. Vanderbilt and South Carolina entered the weekend with the two best fielding percentages in the Southeastern Conference and neither team made an error in the three games.

VANDERBILT 000 010 000 – 1-5-0

SOUTH CAROLINA 074 101 00x – 13-15-0

Faulkner, Childress (3), Ransom (5), Scott (7), Rutledge (8) and Douillard, Wallace (6). Spigner, MacLane (6), Carter (8), Price (9) and Whittaker, Powell (8). W—Spigner (5-1). L—Faulkner (3-1). Save—None. 2B—VU, Broadus; USC, Gonce 2, Floyd, Kelly, Meyer, Jeffcoat. HR—USC, Whittaker (11), McBeth (9), Kelly (5).

March 27, 2001

GAMECOCKS CAPITALIZE ON WILDNESS OF COUGAR PITCHERS IN 5-3 WIN

MT. PLEASANT, SC – South Carolina capitalized on the wildness of College of Charleston pitchers to score three fifth inning runs on only one hit Tuesday night and held on for a 5-3 win before an overflow crowd of 2,762 at Patriot's Point Park.

Third ranked South Carolina improved its record to 23-4 while the College of Charleston dropped to 16-13. Blake Taylor, 1-0, relieved starter Matt Wilson in the fifth inning and was credited with the win while Cougar starter David Jablonski, 1-2, was charged with the loss. Lee Gronkiewicz earned his sixth save for South Carolina.

South Carolina took a 1-0 first inning lead on a double by Marcus McBeth and an error that allowed the Gamecock center fielder to score from second base. Tripp Kelly hit his sixth home run in the second inning to increase the lead to 2-0.

College of Charleston cut the lead in half with a run in the fourth inning on a two out single by Greg Alden who scored on an RBI double by Tradd Denny.

In the top of the fifth inning McBeth singled with one out but was out at second on a fielder's choice by Michael Floyd. Jablonski then hit Tim Whittaker and Garris Gonce with pitches to load the bases. Brennan Dees drew a walk to force in a run. Kelly walked to force in another and Jablonski was relieved by Matthew Thompson who walked Bryon Jeffcoat, making the score 5-1, before Thompson retired the side.

The Cougars got a run back in the bottom of the fifth despite some questionable base running by Mitch Miggenburg. He singled and moved to third on a base hit by John McCarty. Brett Spivey hit a comebacker to the mound and Wilson threw to shortstop Drew Meyer to start a double play. McCarty did not attempt to score on the play but scored the run anyway on a balk by Wilson.

Pinch hitter Ronnie Marmol doubled with one out in the Charleston eighth inning and scored on a single by pinch hitter Jay McCown. Gronkiewicz came in to relieve Tommy MacLane, the third Gamecock pitcher, and halted the rally.

College of Charleston out hit South Carolina 13-6 as the only Gamecocks to hit safely were Meyer and McBeth with two hits apiece plus Kelly's home run and a single by Michael Floyd. Miggenburg had three hits for the Cougars, including a double. Denny and McCarty had two hits apiece. One of Denny's hits was a double.

SOUTH CAROLINA 110 030 000 – 5-6-2

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON 000 110 010 – 3-13-1

Wilson, Taylor (5), MacLane (7), Gronkiewicz (8) and Whittaker. Jablonski, Thompson (5), Davey (6) and Lauderdale. W—Taylor (1-0). L—Jablonski (1-2). Save—Gronkiewicz (6). 2B—USV, McBeth; CC, Denny, Marmol, Miggenburg. HR—USC, Kelly (6).

March 28, 2001

MCBETH'S FOUR RBI SPARK 13-2 GAMECOCK WIN OVER ELON

COLUMBIA, SC – Marcus McBeth drove in four runs in the first two innings with a home run and a double Wednesday night as South Carolina downed Elon 13-2 in a non-conference baseball game.

The third ranked Gamecocks also capitalized on 11 walks, two hit batters and three wild pitches by four Elon pitchers to bat around in two innings and score 13 times despite totaling only seven hits. Elon also managed seven hits.

Freshman left-hander David Marchbanks, 3-1, pitched seven innings and allowed six hits and both Elon runs to pick up the win. He struck out nine and walked none. He allowed only two hits, both by Brian Ingram, over the first five innings. The Phoenix scored both its runs in the sixth on three hits including a double by Shaun Kopczynski.

Thomas Dodson, 0-1, the Elon starter, lasted only 1 1/3 innings and was charged with the loss. He allowed four hits, five runs, walked two and hit one.

Drew Meyer was hit by a pitch to open the bottom of the first inning and McBeth followed with his 10th home run of the season. The Gamecock center fielder doubled to drive in two more runs in a four run Gamecock second inning. South Carolina sent nine batters to the plate in the inning. The Gamecocks sent 12 to the plate in the fifth and scored seven runs on only three hits. A hit batter, two errors and three walks helped the Gamecock cause.

Bryon Jeffcoat also had two hits for South Carolina, including a double, and drove in two runs. Ingram was the only Elon player with two hits and Kopczynski had the only extra base hit.

South Carolina departs Thursday for a three game Southeastern Conference series at Alabama without senior right fielder Brennan Dees who injured his right knee swinging at a pitch in the ninth inning of Tuesday's 5-3 win at the College of Charleston.

Examination Wednesday revealed that Dees suffered a strained medial collateral ligament and a fractured patella. He is expected to be sidelined at least until the Southeastern Conference Tournament, which begins May 16 in Hoover, Ala. Michael Floyd replaced Dees in the starting lineup Wednesday night.

ELON 000 002 000 – 2-7-3

SOUTH CAROLINA 240 070 00x – 13-7-0

Dodson, Garner (2), Pinkerton (5), Cantrell (6) and Kopczynski, Norden (6). Marchbanks, Bondurant (8), Price (9) and Powell. W—Marchbanks (3-1). L—Dodson (0-1). Save—None. 2B—Elon, Kopszynski; USC, McBeth, Jeffcoat. HR—USC, McBeth (10).

GAME 29 3/30/01



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BASEBALL

3.30.2001

Alabama Uses Six Run Fifth to Defeat Carolina, 12-1

- [Box Score](#)

TUSCALOOSA, AL - Alabama scored six of their 12 runs in the fifth inning to vault to a 12-1 win at Sewell-Thomas Stadium Friday night. Carolina moves to 24-5 on the year, 7-3 in the SEC, while Alabama moves to 18-11, 5-5.

Gamecock starter Kip Bouknight (6-1) suffered his first loss of the season, going 4 2/3 innings, giving up seven runs on seven hits.

Gamecock Insider

The Tide opened the scoring in the second frame when Aaron Clark led the inning off with a double to right center field, moved to third on a groundout by Jeremy Brown, then scored on a single to center by designated hitter Beau Heard.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Alabama broke the game open in the fifth when Grant Redding hit a one out double to right center and Peter Stonard followed with an infield single.

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Adam Pavkovich then laid down a bunt on a suicide squeeze play that scored Redding. Scott McClanahan drew a walk to load the bases, Casey Lambert singled to right to score Pavkovich and Stonard, and McClanahan moved to third. Brent Boyd lofted a fly ball to right to score McClanahan on a sacrifice fly. Clark struck again when he hit a two-run shot to right-center, his tenth, chasing Bouknight from the game.

SEC

Carolina put up its only run of the game in the sixth when Bryon Jeffcoat doubled to center, moved to third on Tim Whittaker's single to left, and then scored on Tripp Kelly's single to right.

NCAA

Alabama answered right back in the seventh when Lambert singled to center, moved to third on Boyd's single to right, and scored on Brown's sacrifice fly. Heard doubled to left, scoring Clark, who walked earlier, and Boyd. The scoring ended in the eighth when Pavkovich walked, then scored on McClanahan's triple to right center. He would score the final run of the game on Boyd's sacrifice fly to right.

Defensively, neither team committed an error. Carolina has not committed an error in 16 of the last 29 games, and nine in the past 11. Alabama pitcher Mark Carter earned the win, pitching seven innings, striking out five and walking five. He is now 5-2 on the year.

The two teams meet again tomorrow at 3:15 CT at Sewell-Thomas Stadium. The game can be seen on Fox Sports Net South.

GAME 30
3/31/01

Alabama Defeats South Carolina 13-1

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. - Alabama scored in every inning except the fifth frame in a 13-1 win over South Carolina today at Sewell-Thomas Stadium. Carolina's record now stands at 24-6, 7-4 in SEC play, while the Crimson Tide is now 19-11, 6-5.

Alabama scored two runs in the first when Scott McClanahan drew a leadoff walk and moved to third on a Casey Lambert double to left center, then scored on Brent Boyd's groundout to the shortstop. Lambert would then score on a Jeremy Brown single to left.

Carolina answered right back in the second when Tripp Kelly led off with a single, moved to third on a double by Michael Floyd, and scored on a Trey Dyson groundout to second.

Alabama scored again in the second when McClanahan hit a two-out single to center and scored on Lambert's second straight double. Lambert would score on a throwing error by third baseman Tony Adler on a grounder hit by Boyd.

Boyd would score on Aaron Clark's double to left-center to increase the lead to 5-1.

In the third, Beau Hearod hit a leadoff single to center and moved to second on a Peter Stonard sacrifice bunt. Adam Pavkovich then walked, Nate Rogers singled to right-center, scoring Hearod and chasing Bell from the game.

Blake Taylor entered and induced a double play to end the inning.

In the fourth, Lambert led off with his third double of the game, and scored on Boyd's single to center. Brown was intentionally walked and Hearod singled to left, scoring Boyd.

In the sixth, Alabama scored two more runs when Clark hit a leadoff double, scored on Brown's single that was mis-played by Marcus McBeth, allowing Brown to move to third. It was the first error committed by McBeth since 1999. Brown would score on Stonard's groundout to second to take a 10-1 lead.

Carolina plated its second and final run of the game in the eighth when Landon Powell and Drew Meyer walked, Marcus McBeth was hit by a pitch to load the bases, and Jeffcoat hit a long fly ball to right to score Powell on a sacrifice fly.

Gary Bell (6-3) suffered the loss, while Alabama starter Lance Cormier (5-4) earned the win.

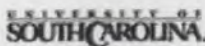
Floyd was 3-4 in the contest, while Jeffcoat collected two hits.

GAME 31 4/1/01



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BASEBALL

4.2.2001

Gamecocks Drop Series Finale to Alabama

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. - After a pair of lopsided wins in the first two games of the series, the University of Alabama held on for a close win in the series finale to post a 7-5 win over the No.3 South Carolina Gamecocks Sunday afternoon at Sewell-Thomas Stadium.

Freshman right-hander Jared Woodward registered two quick outs in the ninth, striking out Dyson and Plummer. Drew Meyer walked after falling behind 0-2 in the count. Marcus McBeth, after falling behind 0-2, singled up the middle to put runners at first second base.

Bryce Heath came in to face Jeffcoat and quickly got ahead in the count 0-2. Jeffcoat fouled off a couple of pitches with a 2-2 count before popping up on the infield. Heath and Clark converged and almost collided, but Heath was able to make the catch for his first save of the year and clinch the Crimson Tide's first-ever three-game sweep over South Carolina.

After dropping the first two games by a combined 25-3 margin, South Carolina (24-7, 7-5 SEC) took a 2-0 lead in the second inning with a pair of unearned runs off Kavonski Chatman. Tim Whittaker led off and was hit by a pitch. Tripp Kelly reached on a fielder's choice as Whittaker was retired at second base. Michael Floyd's swinging bunt resulted in the second out of the inning and sent Kelly to second base.

Chatman picked up his second hit batter of the inning as he hit Yaron Peters after getting ahead in the count 0-2. Trey Dyson then lifted a pop fly down the right field that was dropped by Stonard's allowing both runners to score.

The 2-0 lead was the first in the series by the Gamecocks, who lost 12-1 on Friday and 13-2 on Saturday to the Crimson Tide.

Alabama scored a run in the bottom of the second inning but missed a golden opportunity to score more runs with a base-running blunder. Beau Hearod and Peter Stonard drew back-to-back walks against Chris Spigner. Adam Pavkovich loaded the bases with no out when Kelly mishandled his sacrifice bunt at first base.

Nate Rogers fouled out to the catcher and then Scott McClanahan drove a ball into the gap in right-center field. Hearod scored on the play, but Stonard initially held up at second base causing a logjam on the bases. Stonard made it to third, but Pavkovich had to race back to second. McClanahan was cut down trying to retreat to first base on a relay throw from Marcus McBeth to Drew Meyer and then on to Kelly at first. Casey Lambert grounded out to third baseman Chris Plummer to end the inning.

Alabama (20-11, 7-5 SEC) took its first lead in the bottom of the third inning on a lead off single by Brent Boyd and a two-out, two-run home run by Hearod. Boyd's single to left extended his hitting streak to season-high 13 games. Hearod's two-run home hit off the top of the scoreboard in left to give Alabama a 3-2 lead.

The Crimson Tide put three more runs on the board in the fifth inning to chase Spigner. Lambert reached on an error by Meyer at short and moved to second when Boyd walked. Aaron Clark then laced a triple into the right-center field gap, scoring Lambert and Boyd to give Alabama a 5-2 lead.

Spigner pitched four-plus innings and allowed six runs on four hits. He added three walks, two strikeouts and hit one batter. He was charged with five earned runs.

Brown greeted reliever Tony Adler with an RBI single to left, scoring Clark to push the Tide's lead to 6-2.

USC scored its third unearned run of the game in the seventh inning as Yaron Peters reached on a throwing error by Pavkovich at third base and scored on Chris Plummer's two-out single to right.

Plummer's base hit brought an end to day for Kavonski Chatman, who had his most effective start of the season. Chatman worked 6 2/3 innings and allowed three runs on three hits. He added three strikeouts and hit three batters. All three runs charged to Chatman were unearned.

Chatman (1-0) recorded his first career win for Alabama in his longest career outing. His previous long outing was 5 2/3 innings of relief against Nicholls State on Feb. 13.

Alabama added an insurance run in the bottom of the seventh on a base hit by Heard and a triple into the right field corner by Stonard off reliever Tony Adler to make it a four-run game at 7-3.

USC scored two runs off Woodward in the eighth inning to cut the lead to 7-5. Bryon Jeffcoat line a single to right-center field and scored on Tim Whittaker's two-run home run down the left-field line. Kelly followed with a base hit, but Woodward retired two straight pinch-hitters to preserve the lead.



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BASEBALL GAME 32

4.4.2001

South Carolina Tops Furman, 8-2

Box Score

GREENVILLE -- Nationally seventh-ranked South Carolina belted three home runs and got solid work from five different pitchers to defeat Furman 8-2 in front of 3,258 fans at Greenville Municipal Stadium Wednesday night.

South Carolina (25-7), which came into the game with 57 home runs in 31 games, got long balls from Sheldon Brown, Tim Whittaker, and Chris Plummer to help snap a three-game losing streak and average a 5-4 early season loss to Furman (18-14) in Columbia.

David Marchbanks (4-1), a freshman lefthander from nearby Mauldin, S.C., earned the win after going 4.0 innings and yielding one run, two hits and two walks while recording one strikeout.

Gamecock
Insider

UNIVERSITY OF
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South Carolina, which banged out 14 hits, was paced by Michael Floyd (3-for-5, 2 runs) and Brown (3-for-4, 2 RBI, 2 runs). Derek Norman led Furman, going 3-for-4 with two RBI.

100
ANNIVERSARY

The Gamecocks grabbed a 2-0 lead in the second inning with a leadoff single by Tripp Kelly and two-out, two-run home run to right field by Sheldon Brown off Paladin starter Rusty Putnam (0-3).

SEC
CONFERENCE

South Carolina added a run in the third to make it 3-0 after Tim Whittaker walked with one out, advanced to second on a passed ball, and came home on Michael Floyd's single.

Furman made it 3-1 with a run in the third when Adam Etherington doubled with one out and came home on Derek Norman's two-out double to right center off Marchbanks. Chris Valdes then reached on the Gamecock's second error of the inning, but Marchbanks got Brian Presnell on a fly to left field to end the inning.

NCAA

Brown's one-out double to left center off Paladin reliever Mike Dugan in the fifth led to the Gamecocks' next run. After Drew Meyer struck out, Marcus McBeth doubled down the right field line to score Brown and give South Carolina a 4-1 advantage.

Michael Floyd walked with one out in the seventh, stole second, and scored on a single to left by Chris Plummer to make it 5-1. After Furman cut it to 5-2 on an RBI single by Derek Norman in the bottom of the inning, South Carolina struck for three runs in the ninth with a solo home run by Whittaker and two-run blast to right by Plummer off Paladin reliever Danny Rueckel.

Furman returns to action on Friday when it takes on College of Charleston in Charleston at 7:00 p.m. game. South Carolina hosts LSU in Columbia on Friday beginning at 7:00 p.m.

GAME 33

April 6, 2001

WRIGHT'S 3 RBI, MESTEPEY'S PITCHING POWER LSU OVER SOUTH CAROLINA 5-3

COLUMBIA, SC – Ray Wright drove in three runs, including a two run homer, and Lane Mestepay pitched eight strong innings Friday night to lead Louisiana State to a 5-3 win over South Carolina in the first of a three game Southeastern Conference baseball series.

The second game is scheduled for 4 p.m., Saturday.

The freshman left-hander improved his record to 6-0 while South Carolina ace Kip Bouknight was charged with his second loss against six wins. LSU improved to 23-8-1, 9-4 in the SEC, while South Carolina dropped to 25-8, 7-6. Brad David retired the final two batters after Werlin Guidry walked one of the two batters he faced and David earned his second save.

Wright drove in the first LSU run with a second inning single and homered in the fourth, his third of the season, to erase a 2-1 South Carolina lead. Wright also walked and scored in the sixth inning as LSU scored twice to lead 5-2. Wright was lifted for a pinch hitter in the seventh inning.

Mestepay retired 10 consecutive Gamecock batters after being touched for five hits and two runs in the first four innings. A leadoff single by Drew Meyer and Marcus McBeth's second double of the game broke the string and put runners at second and third base with no outs in the eighth. However, South Carolina scored only one run, on a sacrifice fly by Michael Floyd to cut the final margin to 5-3.

LSU's leadoff batter reached first base in every inning but the first on two hits, two hit batters and four walks and two of them scored. Wright's home run was the only extra base blow among LSU's eight hits.

Ryan Theriot and Wright had two hits apiece for LSU. For South Carolina, Meyer and McBeth each had two hits with McBeth's doubles the only extra base blows.

Four South Carolina pitchers struck out 12 LSU batters but walked nine and hit two to give the Tigers 11 free base runners. LSU stranded 12 runners. Mestepay struck out four and walked four. Guidry and David each struck out one.

LOUISIANA STATE 010 202 000 – 5-8-0

SOUTH CAROLINA 020 000 010 – 3-7-0

Mestepay, Guidry (9), David (9) and Heath. Bouknight, Adler (6), MacLane (7), Price (7) and Whittaker, Powell (9). W—Mestepay (6-0). L—Bouknight (6-2). Save—David (2). 2B—USC, McBeth 2. HR—LSU, Wright (3).

GAME 34

April 6, 2001

FOUR HOME RUNS POWER LSU TO 12-5 WIN OVER SOUTH CAROLINA

COLUMBIA, SC – Four Louisiana State home runs, including a first inning grand slam by Aaron Hill, powered the Tigers Saturday to a 12-5 Southeastern Conference baseball win over South Carolina.

LSU, which won Friday's game 5-3, will go for a sweep of the series in the final game set for 1:30 p.m., at Sarge Frye Field. The win boosted LSU to 24-8-1 overall and 10-4 in the conference. The Tigers are tied with Tennessee and Alabama for the overall SEC lead. South Carolina dropped to 25-9 and evened its conference record at 7-7.

Roy Corcoran, 5-1, who took over when starter Jason Scobie couldn't get through the fifth inning, allowed just one hit over the final five innings to get the win. He walked three and struck out four. South Carolina starter Gary Bell, 6-4, lasted just two thirds of an inning. He was touched for six runs, three of them earned. Bell allowed four hits, including the grand slam by Hill and a two run homer by Matt Heath.

It was Hill's fourth home run of the season and the fifth for Heath.

Mike Fontenot, who had four of the 16 LSU hits, clubbed his sixth home run with a runner on base in the second inning as LSU jumped to an 8-0 lead. The final Tiger homer was a bases empty shot in the eighth inning by Wally Pontiff, his fifth. Ryan Theriot also had four hits for LSU and Heath and Ray Wright each had two. Heath and Todd Linden had doubles.

South Carolina got on the board on a solo home run by Chris Bono, his first, in the second inning. The Gamecocks added a run in the fourth, two in the fifth, and one in the sixth but were hitless with only one base runner over the final three innings. The Gamecocks managed eight hits with Drew Meyer getting two, including a double. Bryon Jeffcoat also had a double.

LOUISIANA STATE 620 001 012 – 12-16-1

SOUTH CAROLINA 010 121 000 – 5-8-2

Scobie, Corcoran (5) and Heath. Bell, Taylor (1), Marchbanks (7), Wilson (9), Bondurant (9) and Whittaker. W—Corcoran (5-1). L—Bell (6-4). Save—None. 2B—LSU, Linden, Heath; USC, Meyer. HR—LSU, Hill (4), Heath (5), Fontenot (6), Pontiff (5); USC, Bono (1).

GAME 35

April 8, 2001

SOUTH CAROLINA DEFEATS LSU 4-2 WITH STRONG PITCHING, TWO HOME RUNS

COLUMBIA, SC – Bryon Jeffcoat and Chris Plummer homered in a three run fifth inning Sunday while Chris Spigner and Lee Gronkiewicz combined in a strong pitching performance to lead South Carolina to a 4-2 win over fourth ranked Louisiana State.

The seventh ranked Gamecocks salvaged the finale of the three game series. South Carolina improved to 26-9, 8-7 in the Southeastern Conference. LSU dropped to 24-9-1, 10-5.

Spigner, 6-2, pitched the first six innings and allowed eight hits and both Tiger runs. He struck out six and walked two. Gronkiewicz gave up a single to Matt Heath, the first batter he faced, and then retired nine in a row to earn his seventh save of the season and lower his earned run average to 0.41 in 18 appearances. He struck out four.

Brian Wilson, 1-2, the first of four LSU pitchers, was charged with the loss. He allowed only three hits in 4 2/3 innings but two of them were the home runs and he left trailing 4-1.

South Carolina took a 1-0 lead without a hit in the third inning. Drew Meyer and Marcus McBeth walked and both runners moved up a base when Wilson threw the baseball into center field on a pick off attempt. Meyer scored on a sacrifice fly by Tim Whittaker.

LSU tied it at 1-1 in the top of the fifth. With one out Heath singled and moved to third on a double by David Raymer. Heath scored on a sacrifice fly by Ryan Theriot. The second Tiger run scored on back to back doubles by Bryan Moore and pinch hitter Todd Linden in the sixth inning after South Carolina had scored three times in the bottom of the fifth.

Jeffcoat led off the Gamecock fifth inning with his ninth home run, a high drive over the left field fence. One out later Landon Powell walked and Plummer hit his fifth, a line drive over the left center field wall.

South Carolina managed only six hits to nine by LSU but the home runs accounted for three of the four Gamecock runs. Jeffcoat and Meyer had two hits each for the Gamecocks. Theriot and Heath had two hits each for LSU.

LOUISIANA STATE 000 011 000 – 2-9-1

SOUTH CAROLINA 000 130 00x – 4-6-0

Wilson, Nugent (5), Youman (6), Guidry (7) and Heath. Spigner, Gronkiewicz (7) and Powell. W—Spigner (6-2). L—Wilson (1-2). Save – Gronkiewicz (7). 2B—LSU, Moore, Linden, Raymer. HR—USC, Jeffcoat (9), Plummer (5).



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BASEBALL *GAME 36*

4.10.2001

South Carolina Clips The Citadel, 12-7

CHARLESTON, SC --- Second baseman Bryon Jeffcoat went 2-for-5, with five RBI and two runs scored to lead South Carolina past The Citadel, 12-7, in collegiate baseball action Tuesday night in Riley Park.

The Citadel (23-13) stranded 15 runners and committed four errors en route to their third straight loss. The Bulldogs scored three runs in the third inning as third baseman Dallas McPherson walked with the bases loaded and catcher Jason Randall singled home two more in the frame. The Bulldogs closed the margin to 9-7 in the bottom of the eighth as McPherson added his second RBI of the night on a single to leftfield scoring centerfielder Matt Dean. The Bulldogs proceeded to load the bases and rightfielder Stuart Jordan walked with the bases loaded to plate leftfielder Daryl Byrd, McPherson scored on a wild pitch and Randall singled home first baseman Philip Hartig to account for all seven of the Bulldog runs.

South Carolina (27-9) wasted no time as they opened the scoring in the top of the first as shortstop Drew Meyer ~~doubled~~ ^{tripled} and scored on a groundout by centerfielder Marcus McBeth. The Gamecocks second run came on a RBI single by leftfielder Michael Floyd. South Carolina added another run in the third and exploded for three runs in the fifth, sixth and ninth innings.

The fifth inning was highlighted Jeffcoat's three-run homer that hit the lightpole in leftfield. The Gamecocks then respond an inning later with three more as Myer and McBeth each added RBI singles.

Left-hander Brett Price picked up the win for the Gamecocks after pitching 4 1/3 innings and striking out six all in relief. Closer Lee Gronkiewicz picked up his eighth save of the season after pitching the final 1 1/3 innings of the game. Left-hander Paul Williams took the loss for the Bulldogs after striking out four in five innings of work.

The Bulldogs and the Gamecocks travel up interstate I-26 for Wednesday game at 7 pm in Sarge Frye Field.

April 6, 2001

PLUMMER'S 2 RBI HIT, STRONG PITCHING LEADS USC OVER THE CITADEL 4-2

COLUMBIA, SC – After missing a suicide squeeze bunt Chris Plummer hit a two out two strike sixth inning base hit to center field Wednesday night to drive in two unearned runs as South Carolina edged The Citadel 4-2 in a non-conference baseball game.

With the score tied 2-2 the Gamecocks loaded the bases with one out on a single by Michael Floyd, a sacrifice, a base on balls and a Bulldog error. Plummer attempted to lay down a one strike bunt but missed the ball and Floyd was out at the plate on the suicide attempt with the other runners moving up a base. Two pitches later Plummer drilled a hard single up the middle to score Tripp Kelly and Landon Powell with the co ahead runs.

Blake Taylor, 2-0, relieved starter David Marchbanks after five innings with the score tied at 2-2. Taylor pitched three shutout innings to get the win. He allowed two hits, walked one and struck out five. Lee Gronkiewicz pitched the ninth inning to earn his ninth save. He gave up one hit and struck out two.

T. W. Mincey, 4-2, The Citadel starter, took the loss. He worked 5 2/3 innings, allowed all six South Carolina hits, walked five and struck out three. Two of the four runs he allowed were unearned.

The Citadel took a 1-0 lead in the top of the second inning when Stuart Jordan walked, moved to third on a double by Jason Randall and scored on a sacrifice fly by Orlando Garcia. South Carolina tied it in the bottom of the second. Tripp Kelly walked and scored on a two out double by Landon Powell.

A Gamecock error, a two out single by David Griffin and a double by Dallas McPherson gave The Citadel an unearned run in the top of the third and a 2-1 lead but Bryon Jeffcoat quickly tied it at 2-2, with his 11th home run of the season in the fourth inning.

Jeffcoat homered in his third consecutive game. He hit a three run home run Tuesday night when South Carolina defeated The Citadel 12-7 at Charleston. He also homered Sunday in a 4-2 Southeastern Conference win over Louisiana State.

The win improved South Carolina's record to 28-9 while The Citadel fell to 23-14. South Carolina travels to Mississippi State for three SEC games this weekend.

The Citadel out hit the Gamecocks 7-6, with Philip Hartig getting two hits. McPherson and Randall contributed doubles. Powell had a double and an infield single for two of the six Gamecock hits. Doubles by Powell and Marcus McBeth and the homer by Jeffcoat were South Carolina's extra base hits.

THE CITADEL 011 000 000 – 2-7-2
SOUTH CAROLINA 010 102 00x – 4-6-1

Mincey, Hamer (6) and Randall. Marchbanks, Taylor (6), Gronkiewicz (9) and Powell. W—Taylor (2-0). L—Mincey (4-2). Save—Gronkiewicz (9). 2B—CIT, McPherson, Randall; USC, Powell, McBeth. HR—USC, Jeffcoat (11).


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BASEBALL

GAME 38

4.13.2001

Gamecocks Leash Bulldogs 6-2

STARKVILLE, MS – Behind Kip Bouknight's 7 2/3 strong innings on the mound and ten Gamecock hits, South Carolina earned a much-needed 6-2 win at Dudy-Noble Field in Starkville. The win, combined with Tennessee and Florida losses puts Carolina in a four-way tie for first place in the SEC Eastern Division.

Carolina, which never trailed in the game, opened the scoring in the second when Gonce hit a one out double to right center field, his twelfth, and scored on Michael Floyd's single to right.

The Gamecocks would strike again in the fourth when Tripp Kelly drew a one out walk, and scored on Sheldon Brown's second double of the year, a towering blast to center that Bulldog centerfielder Phillip Willingham could not hold on to.

In the fifth, Marcus McBeth walked, moved to second on a fielder's choice, moved to third on an error by Bulldog catcher Jason Burkley, and scored on Jeffcoat's groundout to first base. Gonce was then hit by a pitch, moved to second on a Bryon Jeffcoat groundout, and scored on Floyd's single to left.

In the sixth, Brown reached on an error by Bulldog third baseman Steve Gendron, stole second, then moved to third on a Drew Meyer groundout. He would score on McBeth's sacrifice fly to center.

Mississippi State earned both of their runs in the eighth, when Bouknight issued a leadoff walk to Brent Lewis, then gave up a two run homer to Burkley.

The Gamecocks put the game away in the ninth when Gonce was hit by another pitch, moved to second on Jeffcoat's sacrifice bunt, and scored on Tripp Kelly's double.

Bouknight (7-2) earned the win, going 7 2/3 innings, seven hits eight strikeouts and six walks. Lee Gronkiewicz pitched 1 1/3 innings, faced four batters, retiring all four, and struck out two to earn his tenth save of the year.

The two teams meet again tomorrow in game two of the three game series. Carolina will send Chris Spigner to the hill looking for his seventh win of the season. Game time is set for 5:00 EDT at Dudy Noble Field.

SOUTH CAROLINA	010	121	001	-	6-10-0
MISSISSIPPI STATE	000	000	020	-	2-7-2

Bouknight, Gronkiewicz (8) and Whittaker. Collums, Young (5), Carroll (7) and Burkley. 2B- Gonce, Brown, and Kelly. HR- Burkley (5) W—

GAME 39


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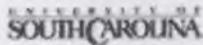
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BASEBALL

4.14.2001

Gamecocks Fall To Mississippi State 4-3 In 11 Innings

• Box Score

STARKVILLE, MS – Mississippi State third baseman Steve Gendron's bases loaded single to center in the bottom of the eleventh inning lifted the Bulldogs past South Carolina 4-3 at rainy Dudy-Noble Field, the first extra inning game for the Gamecocks this season. The contest, which lasted four hours and thirty-two minutes, featured a 58 minute rain delay in the middle of the sixth, and an 11 minute lightning delay prior to the bottom of ninth. It was the longest game of the year for Carolina.

Garris Gonce's two out, three run blast in the top half of the sixth frame vaulted South Carolina to a 3-2 lead. Gonce's fourth round-tripper of the year came after the Bulldogs opened the scoring in the fourth frame.

Chris Spigner retired the first nine batters in a row through three innings before issuing a leadoff walk to Matthew Maniscalco in the fourth, a single to Brent Lewis, and another walk to Jason Burkley to load the bases. Josh West then nubbed a ball right in front of the plate that Spigner tried to scoop home, but the ball never left the ground, which allowed Maniscalco to score. Matthew Brinson then hit a sacrifice fly to right to score Lewis as the Bulldogs took a 2-0 lead.

Bulldog pitcher Paul Maholm dominated the Gamecocks through eight innings, striking out 13 batters and only scattering five hits. Maholm was unlucky in the sixth, when Sheldon Brown and Drew Meyer drew leadoff walks, and Marcus McBeth laid down a sacrifice bunt to move Brown and Meyer to third and second, respectively. Tim Whittaker then struck out, and Gonce took Maholm's 3-1 offering over the leftfield wall to give Carolina the 3-2 advantage.

The Bulldogs answered right back in the seventh to tie the game at three, when Spigner issued a leadoff walks to Jon Knott and Matthew Brinson, struck out Michael Brown, gave up a single to Phillip Willingham, and induced a sacrifice fly ball by Gendron to Michael Floyd, who made a diving catch to get the out. However, Floyd's throw home was barely late, allowing Knott to score.

That would be all of the scoring until the eleventh, when Knott singled to second, Brinson singled to right, Brown struck out, and pinch hitter Robby Goodson walked to load the bases to set up Gendron's game winning hit. Blake Taylor, the third pitcher of the afternoon for Carolina, suffered his first loss of the year. Bulldog reliever Brandon Medders earned his fourth win of the year in a relief role.

The third and final game of the series is set for 2:30 PM EDT Sunday at Dudy-Noble Field.

SOUTH CAROLINA	000	003	000	00-	3-6-0
MISSISSIPPI STATE	000	200	100	01-	4-8-2

<http://www.uscsports.com/news/bbo/bbc/2001/04/14/987303663200.html>

4/14/2001

Spigner, Price (8), Taylor (10) and Whittaker, Powell (10). Maholm, Medders (9) and Burkley. HR-Gonce (4). W—Medders 4-1 L—Taylor 2-1 Save—None.



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BASEBALL

GAME 40

4.15.2001

Gamecocks Lose Heartbreaker To Bulldogs 8-7

STARKVILLE, MS – Jon Knott's two-out, two-strike, three run homerun lifted Mississippi State past South Carolina 8-7 and take the three game series two games to one. Knott's second homer of the day came off of reliever Blake Taylor, who earned his second loss in as many days. Carolina falls to 29-11, 9-9 in the SEC.

Mississippi State jumped out in front in the first inning on Knott's, three run shot to right center after Matthew Maniscalco drew a leadoff walk and Enrico Jones singled to center. David Marchbanks, getting his first career SEC start, then struck out Jason Burkley and Josh West consecutively before giving up the three run blast to Knott. Marchbanks was then replaced by closer Lee Gronkiewicz, who lasted 4 1/3 innings, giving up three hits, two runs and striking out six batters.

Carolina answered right back in the third. Drew Meyer drew a one out walk, moved to second on a passed ball, and Marcus McBeth hit a two- strike pitch over the left field wall to close the gap to 3-2.

The Gamecocks would tie the game in the fifth when McBeth hit a one out double, then scored on Garris Gonce's single to center.

Carolina would take the lead in the seventh, when Drew Meyer took a 1-1 offering from Bulldog starter Tanner Brock over the right field wall to give Carolina its first lead of the game at 4-3.

The Bulldogs, however, would re-take the lead at 5-4 on Matthew Brinson's infield single, moved to second on a wild pitch, then Michael Brown hit his second homer of the year to chase Gronkiewicz from the game.

Carolina would not die, however. The Gamecocks regained the lead in the eighth when Jeffcoat and Kelly drew leadoff walks and pinch hitter Steve Thomas was hit by a pitch to load the bases, and ending Brock's day on the mound. Bulldog reliever Josh Wooten then struck out pinch hitter Chris Bono and Floyd to get two outs, but then hit Meyer on the head to tie the game. McBeth then hit a blooper that dropped in left field scoring Kelly and Thomas for a 7-5 Gamecock lead.

The lead would hold until the ninth, when Taylor retired Maniscalco on a popup to short, but Brent Lewis singled to left, Burkley was hit by a pitch, and West flew out to left. Knott then hit the walk off homer to win the game.

The Gamecocks are next in action this Wednesday when they take on Clemson at Sarge Frye Field at 7:00 p.m.

SOUTH CAROLINA	002	010	130	7-9-1
MISSISSIPPI STATE	300	000	203	8-8-2

Marchbanks, Gronkiewicz (2), Price (7), Taylor (8) and Powell, and Whittaker (9). Brock, Wooten (8) and Burkley. 2B- McBeth. HR- Knott (2) {6}, McBeth (11), Meyer (3) and Brown (2) W—Wooten 2-3 L—Taylor 2-2 Save—None.



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GAME 41

April 18, 2001

BELL-BOUKNIGHT PITCH GAMECOCKS TO 9-3 WIN OVER CLEMSON

COLUMBIA, SC – Gary Bell pitched 6 2/3 strong innings and Kip Bouknight struck out four of the seven batters he faced Wednesday night as South Carolina banged out 14 hits to defeat Clemson 9-3 before 6,227 fans at Sarge Frye Field.

Bell, 7-4, picked up the win and Bouknight – the Gamecock ace and last year's Golden Spikes Award winner as National Player of the Year – made his second relief appearance of the year and earned a save. Matt Henrie, 4-2, took the loss. Bell allowed five hits and three runs, only two earned. He struck out six and walked one.

South Carolina improved to 30-11 while Clemson dropped to 26-14. The Gamecocks travel to Athens for a weekend Southeastern Conference series with Georgia. Clemson is at home in an Atlantic Coast Conference series against Georgia Tech.

Clemson drew first blood with an unearned run without a hit in the top of the third inning. Ryan Riley walked and both runners were safe when Gamecock first baseman Tripp Kelly muffed the throw on a sacrifice bunt by Kyle Frank. Steve Pyzik sacrificed the runners to second and third base and Riley scored on a sacrifice fly by Casey Stone.

South Carolina got the run back in the bottom of the third. Sheldon Brown walked and moved to third on a double by Drew Meyer, his second of the game. Brown scored on a wild pitch.

Bryon Jeffcoat doubled and Tripp Kelly walked leading off the bottom of the fourth. Chris Plummer bunted them over and pinch hitter Matt Riddle's single scored Jeffcoat. Kelly scored on a single by Meyer, his third consecutive hit, to make the score 3-1.

The Gamecocks added two runs in the fifth. Michael Floyd was safe on a fielder's choice and Jeffcoat singled. A double steal was followed by a two RBI single by Chris Plummer. The lead widened to 6-1 in the sixth inning. A walk to Garris Gonce was followed by singles by Tim Whittaker and Jeffcoat.

Bell was pitching a two hitter with one out in the seventh inning but consecutive hits by Russell Triplett, Ryan Riley and Frank, the last a two RBI double, cut the Gamecock lead to 6-3. After Pyzik made the second out Brett Price relieved Bell and struck out Stone but the ball was in the dirt and Stone reached ~~out~~ ^{with Kelly on a pop} catcher Whittaker's ~~pop~~ throw with Frank remaining at second base. Price walked Chad Coder to load the bases and had a 2-0 count on Jarrod Schmidt when relieved by Bouknight.

Bouknight struck out Schmidt on four pitches to leave the tying runs on base and retired the Tigers in order in the eighth and ninth innings with three more strikeouts.

Landon Powell, South Carolina's third designated hitter of the game, hit a two run home run, his third of the season, in the bottom of the seventh and the Gamecock added another run on three hits in the eighth for the final margin of 9-3.

Meyer's three hits led the Gamecock attack with Whittaker, Jeffcoat and Plummer each contributing two hits. Clemson's five hits were by five different players.

CLEMSON 001 000 200 – 3-5-0

SOUTH CAROLINA 001 221 21x – 9-14-2

Henrie, Harrelson (4), Boozer (5), Cram (7) and Pyzik. Bell, Price (7), Bouknight (7) and Whittaker. W—Bell (7-4). L—Henrie (4-2). Save—Bouknight (1). 2B—CU, Greene, Frank; USC, Meyer 2, Jeffcoat. HR—USC, Powell (3).

GAME 42



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BASEBALL

4.20.2001

Gamecocks fall to Georgia, 9-4

ATHENS, GA – Georgia used a five run first inning and capitalized on three South Carolina errors to win game one of a three game SEC baseball series at Foley Field in Athens by the score of 9-4.

Chris Spigner (6-3) took the loss, while Bulldog starter Jeremy Brown (5-2) pitched a complete game, striking out seven batters, scattering five hits to earn his fifth win of the season.

The Gamecocks jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first inning on Michael Floyd's leadoff single, then Drew Meyer doubled to right center to score Floyd for a 1-0 lead. Marcus McBeth flew out to right, which advanced Meyer to third. Tim Whittaker grounded out to third, but Meyer scored from third on the play for Carolina's only lead of the game at 2-0.

Gamecock
Insider

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Georgia would answer with five runs in its half of the first when Andy Neufeld singled, Jody Pollock walked, and moved to third and second on a balk, respectively. Jeff Keppinger singled to center, scoring Neufeld, and moved to second on the throw home. Doc Brooks was hit by a pitch to load the bases, and David Coffey walked to score Pollock.

100
YEARS OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

Mark Thornhill then hit a dribbler back to the mound, which Spigner threw home to force Keppinger. Adam Swann followed with a single to center to score Brooks, and Kris Edge reached on a fielder's choice on a grounder to second to force out Swann, but Meyer's throw to first was high, allowing Thornhill and Coffey to score to end the rally in the first.

SEC
CONFERENCE

The Gamecocks answered in the fourth when Whittaker drew a leadoff walk, moved to second on Bryon Jeffcoat's bunt single, and scored on Brennan Dees' single to left.

NCAA

Georgia answered right back with a run in the sixth. Swann hit a leadoff double to left, followed by an Edge groundout to second, moving Swann to third. He would score on pinch-hitter Blake Bodenmiller's sacrifice fly to left.

Carolina earned its final run of the game in the eighth, when McBeth was hit by a pitch, moved to second on a stolen base, and scored on Keppinger's throwing error on a Whittaker ground ball.

The Bulldogs broke the game open in the eighth. Coffey drew a leadoff walk and was replaced by pinch runner Darryl Blaze. Thornhill walked, Swann reached on an error by Jeffcoat, who dropped the throw to first on the sacrifice bunt attempt. Jeffcoat's throw home to get Blaze was high, allowing him to score. Edge then walked to load the bases, followed by a Neufeld walk to score Thornhill. Pollock then singled to center to score Swann, but Neufeld was cut down at home on McBeth's throw.

GAME 43

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BASEBALL

4.21.2001

Gamecocks lose to Georgia 5-4 on 9th-inning single

ATHENS, GA- Kris Edge's game-winning run-scoring double completed a 5-4 walk-off win for Georgia over 16th-ranked South Carolina Saturday at Foley Field.

After a bases-loaded wild pitch by Bill Sharpton gave the Gamecocks a 4-3 lead in the ninth, Georgia (26-14, 12-8 SEC) rallied back for a pair of runs in the bottom of the ninth. The Bulldogs have won the first two games of the series over the Gamecocks (30-13, 9-11 SEC). Carolina opened the scoring in the third on a Bryon Jeffcoat two out walk, moved to second on a stolen base, and scored on Drew Meyer's single to center for a 1-0 lead.

Padding the lead in the fourth, Brennan Dees crushed a solo shot to left, his eighth of the year and his first since March 7. It was Carolina's 70th homer of the year in 43 games.

**Gamecock
Insider**

Georgia answered with a run in the fourth to cut the lead to 2-1, but Carolina was not finished. In the sixth, Meyer walked, stole second, moved to third on Garris Gonce's infield single, and scored on Dees' sacrifice fly to right for a 3-1 Carolina lead. The Bulldogs tied the game in the seventh on a Jeff Keppinger infield single, then Doc Brooks hit a towering homer to left to knot the game at three.

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SEC
CONFERENCE

That would be all of the scoring until the ninth, when Carolina pushed a run across on the strength of four walks by Bulldog pitchers Scott Murphy and Sharpton, who replaced a tiring Murphy in the ninth. Jeffcoat drew a one out walk and moved to second on Tim Whittaker's groundout to third. Murphy then issued a walk to pinch hitter Trey Dyson, and was then replaced by Sharpton. Sharpton then walked Sheldon Brown to load the bases with two outs, and then threw a wild pitch to score Jeffcoat from third. Sharpton then walked Meyer to reload the bases, but struck out Marcus McBeth to end the inning.

NCAA

In the Bulldog ninth, junior Doc Brooks drew a one-out walk from Lee Gronkiewicz. David Coffey singled up the middle and then Adam Swann tied the game with a base hit to left, scoring Brooks. Mark Thornhill popped out to shortstop for the second out. Edge stepped up and delivered a double to the gap in left center for the win.

Sharpton recorded the final out in the ninth for the win in relief of Murphy who struck out 11 in 8.2 innings. Murphy had pitched two straight complete games in his last two starts. Murphy allowed four runs on five hits with five walks.

Gamecock starter Kip Bouknight pitched into the sixth, allowing one run on six hits with four walks and two strikeouts. Gronkiewicz surrendered four runs on five hits in relief of Bouknight.



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BASEBALL GAME 44

4.21.2001

Bell tosses complete game shutout in 6-0 win over Georgia

ATHENS, GA –Gary Bell hurled South Carolina's first complete game shutout of the season, snapping Georgia's string of 139 consecutive games of scoring at least one run in a 6-0 Gamecock win at Foley Field.

Bell, who also defeated Clemson last Wednesday, gave the Gamecock bullpen a much-needed rest by going nine strong innings, scattering five hits and striking out four. All five hits were singles and only two Bulldog batters reached third base. No Bulldog base runner reached third base after the third inning.

Carolina jumped out to an early lead in the second when Sheldon Brown hit an infield single, followed by a Drew Meyer single to right. Garris Gonce hit the first of his two doubles on the day, this one to left center to score Brown from second. Brennan Dees followed with a single to left to score Meyer and move Gonce to third. Tim Whittaker lofted a fly ball to left to score Gonce on a sacrifice fly giving Carolina a 3-0 lead after three innings.

Adding to the lead in the sixth, Whittaker hit his fourteenth homer of the year, a solo shot to right to widen the margin to 4-0. It was Whittaker's first homer since April 4, and increased the team's total to 71. In the eighth, Gonce hit a leadoff double to left center and scored on Dees' two strike single to center. Dees would advance to second on a Moravek wild pitch, and scored on a Marcus McBeth fly ball to left that was dropped by Bulldog leftfielder Doc Brooks.

Gonce and Dees each finished 2-4 on the day, and Meyer was 2-5. Meyer extended his team-leading hitting streak to five games, while Gonce increased his hitting streak to three games.

McBeth had eight putouts from his centerfield spot, tying a school record for most assists by an outfielder, which had been held by Robby Veollmer, who had eight putouts on March 13, 1982 against Miami (FL).

The Gamecock defense played an errorless game for the 20th time this season. It was the first errorless game since the second game of the Mississippi State series.

Carolina is next in action this Wednesday when they travel to Clemson for the fourth and final game of the series against the Tigers. Game time is set for 7:15 at Doug Kingsmore Stadium.

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BASEBALL GAME 45

4.26.2001

Tanner gets 200th win as Gamecocks beat Clemson

Clemson, SC - Drew Meyer hit a home run and Lee Gronkiewicz pitched 2 2/3 innings of one-hit relief to lead South Carolina to a 2-1 rain-delayed victory over Clemson at Doug Kingsmore Stadium. The win improved South Carolina to 32-13 for the year, while Clemson fell to 29-16. South Carolina won the season series 3-1, and in the process, Carolina coach Ray Tanner earned his 200th victory as the coach at South Carolina. The Gamecocks have now won five of the last six meetings from the Tigers.

The two teams battled to a scoreless tie through the first three innings. Clemson starter Steve Reba allowed just one hit through the first three frames, while South Carolina starter Chris Spigner allowed just two hits.

South Carolina took a 1-0 lead in the top of the fourth, the first run allowed by Reba in 14 innings. Drew Meyer homered to right center to open the inning, his third career home run at Kingsmore Stadium in three games, which also extended his hitting streak to six games.

Clemson tied the game with a run in the bottom of the fourth frame. Kyle Frank opened the inning with a walk and moved to second on a Jeff Baker singled to center. Michael Johnson came to the plate and grounded back to Spigner, but the pitcher threw wide of third base, allowing Frank to score. Johnson advanced to second and Baker to third. South Carolina brought in Blake Taylor with the runners on second and third and no out. But, the South Carolina pitcher set the Tigers down on two strikeouts and a pop up.

South Carolina took a 2-1 lead in the top of the fifth. With one out, Michael Floyd singled to left, stole second and Tripp Kelly walked. Chris Plummer then attempted to move the runners up on a sacrifice, but Reba's throw to first was errant, allowing Floyd to score. Reba then settled down to get out of the inning.

Clemson got a single in the bottom of the fifth from leadoff hitter Casey Stone, but could not advance him past second.

Both teams failed to score after the delay. South Carolina had outstanding pitching from David Marchbanks and Lee Gronkiewicz. The latter pitched the final 2 2/3 innings and struck out four, he allowed just one hit in earning his nation's leading eleventh save. He came on in the seventh with Clemson runners on second and third and just one out. But, he retired the Tigers, then gave up just one hit in the final two innings.

Blake Taylor got the win for South Carolina to improve to 3-2 for the season, while Clemson ace Steve Reba took the loss to drop to 8-2.

After the game at homeplate, MVP awards for the four-game Clemson vs. South Carolina series were presented in the names of each school's longtime sports information directors. South Carolina's MVP, the winner of the Tom Price Award, was Drew Meyer. Clemson's MVP, the winner of the Bob Bradley Award, was Jeff Baker.

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April 27, 2001

GAMECOCKS FOUR RUN NINTH INNING RALLY TOPS AUBURN 10-9

COLUMBIA, SC – South Carolina scored four times with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning with a single by Marcus McBeth driving in the winning run to defeat Auburn 10-9 in the first game of a Southeastern Conference baseball series.

The win improved South Carolina's record to 33-13, 11-11 in the SEC while Auburn dropped to 30-13 and is also 11-11 in the conference. Brett Price, 2-0, the fourth South Carolina pitcher, picked up the win while Brandon Luna, 2-3, took the loss. The second game of the series is scheduled for 4 p.m., EDT Saturday at Sarge Frye Field.

South Carolina defeated Auburn for the 11th consecutive time over four seasons to increase its lead in the series to 17-10.

Auburn out hit the Gamecocks 15-9 but all of the Tiger hits were singles while South Carolina got a three run home run from Tim Whittaker, his 15th, in the fourth inning, a two run shot from McBeth in the sixth and a solo homer from Bryon Jeffcoat in the seventh to drive in all the Gamecock runs until the ninth inning rally. McBeth and Jeffcoat have 12 homers each this season.

Auburn scored in five consecutive innings, getting one run in the fifth, two in the sixth, one in the seventh, three in the eighth and one in the ninth to lead 9-6 after 8 ½ innings.

Michael Floyd led off the bottom of the ninth with a base hit, just South Carolina's sixth hit of the game. Jeffcoat singled and after pinch hitter Matt Riddle lined out to center field pinch hitter Landon Powell worked a walk to load the bases. Luna replaced Eric Brandon as Auburn's pitcher and got the second out on a force to the plate when Drew Meyer bounced back to the mound.

Garris Gonce was hit by a pitch, the 15th time he has been hit this season, to force in a run and cut the Auburn lead to 9-7. Trey Dyson, hitting just .143 this season, drove in two runs to tie the game with a line drive pinch hit to center field. Whittaker walked to again load the bases and McBeth hit the second pitch from Luna into center field for the winning RBI.

The win was just South Carolina's second walk off win of the season. McBeth hit a two run home run Feb. 23 to defeat George Mason 9-7.

McBeth and Jeffcoat were the only South Carolina players with two hits. Gonce had a double and he Whittaker and Jeffcoat scored two runs. Mailon Kent had three hits for Auburn but four others – Javon Moran, Todd Faulkner, Scott Schade, Justin Christian and Brett Burnham – had two hits. Burnham drove in two of the Auburn runs.

AUBURN 001 012 131 – 9-15-2

SOUTH CAROLINA 000 302 104 – 10-9-2

Speigner, Brandon (8), Luna (9) and Pratt. Bouknight, Taylor (7), Gronkiewicz (7), Price (8) and Whittaker. W—Price (2-0). L—Luna (2-3). Save—None. 2B—USC, Gonce. HR—USC, Whittaker (15), McBeth (12), Jeffcoat (12)

GAME 47

April 27, 2001

SOUTH CAROLINA WINS 12TH STRAIGHT OVER AUBURN 7-4

COLUMBIA, SC – South Carolina offset four Auburn home runs with a 10 hit attack led by three hits by Garris Gonce Saturday to defeat the Tigers 7-4 and take a 2-0 lead in a Southeastern Conference baseball series.

The third game is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Sunday at Sarge Frye Field. South Carolina won the series opener Friday night 10-9 with a four run ninth inning rally and has defeated Auburn 12 consecutive times over four seasons.

Gary Bell, 9-4, pitched 7 2/3 innings to earn the win. He allowed eight hits, four runs, walked one and struck out four. Cory Dueitt, 3-2, took the loss. Lee Gronkiewicz, who leads the nation in saves, retired the final four Tiger batters to increase his save total to 12.

All of the Auburn scoring came on four solo home runs, two by Mailon Kent in the sixth and eighth innings, by Gabe Gross in the fourth and Todd Faulkner in the eighth. Kent's two homers were his first of the season. Gross hit his 10th and Faulkner his first.

South Carolina hit one home run, a leadoff shot by Michael Floyd in the second inning as South Carolina scored once in each of the first three. It was the second homer for Floyd.

The Gamecocks loaded the bases with no outs in the first inning on infield hits by Marcus McBeth and Drew Meyer and a single by Gonce but scored only one run, McBeth crossing the plate as Brennan Dees hit into a double play.

Dees tied a school record with two sacrifice flies that drove in runs in the third and fifth innings. The Gamecocks used a hit batter, a walk, an RBI single by Gonce and the second sacrifice fly by Dees to score twice in the fifth inning.

After Auburn narrowed the South Carolina lead to 5-4 on eighth inning home runs by Kent and Faulkner, South Carolina countered with two in the bottom of the inning. Gonce was hit by a pitch for the 16th time this season, Dees singled and Floyd walked with two outs to load the bases. Freshman Landon Powell delivered a pinch single to drive in Gonce and pinch runner Steve Thomas.

One of the three hits by Gonce was a double. The only other Gamecock with more than one hit was McBeth who beat out two infield choppers. Kent, Scott Schade and Justin Christian had two hits for Auburn. Christian contributed a double.

AUBURN 000 101 020 – 4-8-0

SOUTH CAROLINA 111 020 02x – 7-10-1

Dueitt, Skinner (8) and Pratt. Bell, Gronkiewicz (8) and Whittaker. W—Bell (9-4). L—Dueitt (3-2). Save—Gronkiewicz (12). 2B—AU, Christian; USC, Gonce. HR—AU—Kent 2(2), Gross (10), Faulkner (1).

April 29, 2001

HOME RUNS POWER AUBURN TO 5-3 WIN OVER SOUTH CAROLINA

COLUMBIA, SC – Auburn managed only five hits Sunday but three were solo home runs, two by Gabe Gross, and the Tigers defeated South Carolina 5-3 to break a 12 game losing streak to the Gamecocks over the past four seasons.

Auburn avoided a three game sweep by the Gamecocks and improved to 31-14 overall and 12-12 in the Southeastern Conference. South Carolina is 34-14 and also 12-12 in the SEC.

Freshman Colby Paxton pitched seven innings to improve his record to 4-2. He allowed six hits, one after the fourth inning, walked three and struck out two. Eric Brandon allowed only a base on balls over the final two innings to earn his third save.

Chris Spigner, 6-4, pitched into the ninth inning for South Carolina and allowed only five hits but the bases empty home runs by Gross, his 11th and 12th of the season, and Trent Pratt's fifth accounted for three Tiger runs.

Auburn's other extra base hit, a leadoff double by Jonathan Schuerholz in the third inning, led to another run. Schuerholz was sacrificed to third and scored on an infield out.

Leading 4-3, Auburn added an insurance run in the ninth inning without a hit. Brett Burnham walked and Blake Taylor relieved Spigner. Taylor bobbled a sacrifice bunt by Schuerholz and both runners were safe. They moved up on another sacrifice bunt and pinch runner Trent Wilson scored on a sacrifice fly by Mailon Kent.

A double error by Auburn third baseman Scott Schade on a ground ball landed Michael Floyd on third base with one out in the South Carolina second inning. Floyd scored on a sacrifice fly by Bryon Jeffcoat.

The Gamecocks scored twice in the third inning. Chris Plummer led off with a single and moved to third on a hit by Marcus McBeth. McBeth was out on a fielder's choice by Drew Meyer, Plummer scoring on the play. Meyer stole second and third and scored on a base hit by Tim Whittaker.

South Carolina led 3-2 after three innings but the only Gamecock hits after that were a single in the fourth inning by Jeffcoat and a sixth inning double by Floyd.

Auburn came into the series having hit only 20 home runs through 42 games. The Tigers hit seven, all with the bases empty, in the final two games against South Carolina. Gross had three homers, increasing his season total to 12. Kent hit his first two of the season Saturday and Todd Faulkner hit his first on Saturday. Pratt homered Sunday.

AUBURN 011 001 011 – 5-5-3

SOUTH CAROLINA 012 000 000 – 3-6-1

Paxton, Brandon (8) and Pratt. Spigner, Taylor (9) and Powell. W—Paxton (4-2). L—Spigner (6-4). Save—Brandon (3). 2B—AU, Schuerholz; USC, Floyd, HR—AU, Gross 2(12), Pratt (5).



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BASEBALL

GAME 49

5.01.2001

Gamecocks crush Wofford 12-3 behind four homeruns, 15 hits

SPARTANBURG, S.C.— South Carolina used three third inning homeruns to erase an early 1-0 Wofford lead and cruise to a 12-3 win at Duncan Park in Spartanburg. Carolina, who swept the three game series with the Terriers, moves to 35-14 on the year with the win.

David Marchbanks, (5-1) the first of four Gamecock hurlers, pitched seven strong innings to earn his fifth win of the year. The Carolina offense banged out 15 hits in the attack, including four homers by four different players in the contest to increase the team's total to 80 in 49 games.

Wofford starter Joey Cress (0-8) suffered his eighth straight loss after giving up six runs in 3 2/3 innings of work. Wofford jumped out in the first inning for its only lead of the game on Kevin Bowyer's one-out double, and would score on a Chad Livingston single to center.

Carolina answered right back in the third with four runs of their own on Brennan Dees' leadoff homer, his tenth, followed by Yaron Peters' second blast of the year. Sheldon Brown narrowly missed hitting three consecutive homeruns, when his line drive to left hit the very top of the wall and had to stop at second. He would come home on Drew Meyer's fifth round-tripper.

It was the first time all year that Carolina hit three homers in one inning. In the fourth, Bryon Jeffcoat and Dees hit back-to-back singles to lead off the inning, and scored on Brown's second double in as many innings, a titanic blast to center that also barely missed going out of the park. McBeth led off the fifth with a two-strike homerun, his thirteenth, to increase the lead to 7-1, but the Terriers answered with two runs of their own in the sixth.

Livingston walked, one of two issued by Marchbanks, and scored on Steve Casey's double to center, cutting the lead to 7-2. Casey then came home on Danny Slade's two out double to right center, but that was as close as the Terriers would get.

In the seventh, Carolina put the game away for good. Steve Thomas, who replaced Drew Meyer in the lineup after the sophomore shortstop injured his back, reached on an error by the third baseman and moved to third on a hit and run when McBeth singled to center. He would score on Garris Gonce's long single off the left field wall. McBeth and Dees then scored on Tim Whittaker's twelfth double of the year, a line drive to left center to increase the lead to 10-3. Whittaker would score on a Jeffcoat sacrifice fly to right.

The final run of the game was scored in the eighth. Tripp Kelly hit a leadoff double, his third, and scored on Trey Dyson's single to right for a 12-3 lead.

The Gamecocks return home Wednesday night for its last non-conference game of the season when they host Charleston Southern at Sarge Frye Field at 7:00 p.m. The game can be heard on SportsRadio 1400 AM in Columbia beginning at 6:50 p.m.

SOUTH CAROLINA 004 210 410 12-15-2

WOFFORD 100 002 000 3-8-1

Marchbanks, Bondurant (8), Whetstone (9), Carter (9) and Whittaker. Cress, Strkie (4).

UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA



GAME 50

May 2, 2001

GAMECOCKS EDGE CHARLESTON SOUTHERN ON A HOME RUN BY DEES

COLUMBIA, SC – Brennan Dees broke a 3-3 tie Wednesday night with his 11th home run of the season in the bottom of the seventh inning as South Carolina defeated Charleston Southern 4-3 before 1,815 fans at Sarge Frye Field.

The Gamecocks used five pitchers with Brett Price, 3-0, getting the win. Lee Gronkiewicz relieved Price with two outs in the eighth inning and the tying run on base. He struck out four consecutive batters for his NCAA leading 13th save. Ryan Smith, 1-7, the second of three Charleston Southern pitchers, took the loss.

Charleston Southern managed only five hits to 10 by the Gamecocks but South Carolina had to twice come from behind to improve its record to 36-14 while Charleston Southern dropped to 13-31.

South Carolina opens an important three game Southeastern Conference series with Kentucky Friday night at Sarge Frye Field.

Charleston Southern scored an unearned run in the top of the second inning on a hit by Adrian Vanderburg, two South Carolina errors and an infield out by David Martindale that scored Vanderburg.

South Carolina scored twice in the third inning to lead 2-1. Sheldon Brown walked, Drew Meyer doubled him to third and he scored on an error. Meyer scored on an infield out by Marcus McBeth.

In the top of the fourth inning Vanderburg walked and scored ahead of Scott Thacker's first home run of the season to give the Buccaneers a 3-2 lead. South Carolina tied it in the bottom of the inning. Bryon Jeffcoat singled, Chris Plummer walked and Jeffcoat scored on a single by Meyer, his third hit of the game.

Dees also had three hits, a single and a double, to go with his home run. Landon Powell had a double for the Gamecocks.

No Buccaneer had more than one hit with the homer by Thacker the only Charleston Southern extra base hit.

CHARLESTON SOUTHERN 010 200 000 – 3-5-3

SOUTH CAROLINA 002 100 10x – 4-10-2

Coenen, Smith (5), Humbert (8) and Jones. MacLane, Bondurant (3), Carter (6), Price (7), Gronkiewicz (8) and Powell, Whittaker (9). W—Price (3-0). L—Smith (1-7). Save—Gronkiewicz (13). 2B—USC, Meyer, Dees, Powell. HR—CSU, Thacker (1); USC, Dees (11).

May 4, 2001

BOUKNIGHT PITCHES SHUTOUT, 4 GAMECOCK HOMERS IN 11-0 WIN OVER KENTUCKY

COLUMBIA, SC – Kip Bouknight pitched a three hit shutout and four Gamecocks hit home runs Friday night as South Carolina defeated Kentucky 11-0 in the first of a three game Southeastern Conference baseball series.

Bouknight improved his season record to 8-2 with his first complete game of the season. Kentucky starter Scott Wade, 3-8, was charged with the loss. South Carolina improved to 37-14 overall, 13-12 in the SEC while Kentucky fell to 20-30, 6-19.

The second game is scheduled for 6 p.m., Saturday at Sarge Frye Field. A reunion of South Carolina's 1975 and 1977 College World Series runner-up teams will feature a pre-game ceremony as part of the University's Bicentennial.

South Carolina took a 1-0 lead with a pair of two out extra base hits in the bottom of the first inning. Brennan Dees doubled, the first of his three hits, and scored when Garris Gonc tripled.

South Carolina widened its lead to 5-0 with back to back one out home runs in the fourth inning. Chris Plummer hit a three run shot, his sixth of the season, and Marcus McBeth followed with his 14th. Tripp Kelly led off the Gamecock sixth inning with his seventh homer and Tim Whittaker hit his 16th with a runner on base in the seventh.

South Carolina added three runs without a hit in the eighth inning on three walks, a hit batter, a sacrifice fly and a passed ball.

Bouknight allowed a bloop single by Cory Hahn in the third inning, a double by Vince Harrison in the fourth and Harrison beat out an infield hit in the seventh. Bouknight struck out six and walked three, two of them coming with one out in the ninth inning. Seth Morris then hit into a double play to end the game.

Everyone in South Carolina's starting batting order except shortstop Drew Meyer hit safely with Gonc and Bryon Jeffcoat getting two hits while Dees had three.

Donald Ray Tanner, Sr., father of South Carolina's head coach, passed away in Raleigh, N. C., after a long battle with cancer shortly before the beginning of the Friday game. Tanner said his father wanted him to remain with the team through the weekend series. The Friday win was the 600th of Tanner's career, 205 in five seasons at South Carolina and 395 in nine years at N. C. State.

KENTUCKY 000 000 000 -- 0-3-1
SOUTH CAROLINA 100 401 23x -- 11-12-1

Wade, Felkel (7) and Brock. Bouknight and Whittaker. W—Bouknight (8-2). L—Wade (3-8). 2B—UK, Harrison; USC, Dees. 3B—USC, Gonc. HR—USC, Plummer (6), McBeth (14), Kelly (7), Whittaker (16).

May 5, 2001

SOUTH CAROLINA DOWNS KENTUCKY 10-0 ON BELL'S PITCHING, 15 HIT ATTACK

COLUMBIA, SC – South Carolina backed Gary Bell's four hit pitching with a 15 hit attack Saturday and the Gamecocks shut out Kentucky for the second consecutive day, 10-0.

The Gamecocks won the Friday night season opener 11-0 behind the three hit pitching of Kip Bouknight. The final game of the Southeastern Conference series is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Sunday at Sarge Frye Field.

Bell, 10-4, allowed only three Kentucky base runners over the first eight innings but needed help from freshman Chris Carter when the Wildcats loaded the bases with two outs in the ninth inning. Morgan Embry grounded to shortstop Drew Meyer who forced Seth Morris at second base to end the game.

The win improved South Carolina's record to 38-14 overall, 14-12 in the SEC. Kentucky dropped to 20-31, 6-20. Rob Corrado, 5-6, was the losing pitcher. He gave up 10 hits and eight earned runs in four innings. Bell became the first 10 game winner in the SEC this season.

Kentucky's only base runners over eight innings came on singles by Brad Pickrell in the fourth inning, Cory Hahn in the sixth and John Love in the eighth. Spencer Graeter led off the Kentucky ninth with a double but Bell retired the next two batters. He walked the next two, however, and Carter was summoned to record the final out.

South Carolina's staff has pitched 23 consecutive scoreless innings including the final five innings of a Wednesday night 4-3 non-conference win over Charleston Southern.

South Carolina put together six hits to score four times in the second inning and added two runs with three more hits in the third to lead 6-0. A hit batter and Brennan Dees' 12th home run of the season made it 8-0 in the fourth inning. The Gamecocks added single runs in the fifth and sixth to complete the scoring.

Garris Gonce had three hits for South Carolina with Drew Meyer, Dees, Michael Floyd, Bryon Jeffcoat and Tripp Kelly contributing two hits each. Both of Kelly's hits were doubles and Dees, Tim Whittaker, Floyd and Jeffcoat had doubles. Floyd drove in three runs and Dees and Kelly had two RBI apiece.

South Carolina remains tied with Florida for sixth in the overall SEC standings. Auburn, 13-13, is a game behind in eighth place and Alabama, 11-15, is ninth, three games behind the Gamecocks with four conference games remaining.

Eight of the 12 SEC teams qualify for the conference tournament scheduled for May 16-20 at Birmingham. After concluding the home series with Kentucky, South Carolina travels to Florida next weekend to conclude regular season play.

KENTUCKY 000 000 000 – 0-4-0
SOUTH CAROLINA 042 211 00x – 10-15-0

Corrado, Galvin (5) and Embry. Bell, Carter (9) and Whittaker, Powell (9). W—Bell (10-4). L—Corrado (5-6). Save—None. 2B—UK, Graeter; USC, Kelly 2, Dees, Whittaker, Floyd, Jeffcoat. HR—USC, Dees (12).

May 6, 2001

GAMECOCKS BAT AROUND TWICE TO DOWN KENTUCKY 12-3 AND SWEEP SERIES

COLUMBIA, SC – South Carolina batted around in the fourth and fifth innings Sunday and collected 13 hits, including home runs by Garris Gonce and Tim Whittaker to defeat Kentucky 12-3 and sweep a three game Southeastern Conference baseball series.

Brett Price, 4-0, in relief of starter Chris Spigner, was the winning pitcher and Kentucky starter Cory Hahn, 3-5, was charged with the loss. South Carolina improved its record to 39-14 overall, 15-12 in the SEC. Kentucky dropped to 20-32, 6-21.

Kentucky, which was shut out in the first two games of the series, took a 2-0 first inning lead when the first three Wildcats to face Spigner had base hits. Beau Moore and Spencer Graeter singled and Vince Harrison doubled to score Moore. Graeter scored when Spencer Preston grounded out.

South Carolina cut the margin to 2-1 in the bottom of the second. Garris Gonce doubled and scored on a single by Michael Floyd. However, Brent Stephens hit his first collegiate home run for Kentucky in the top of the fourth to restore the lead to two runs at 3-1.

Nine South Carolina batters went to the plate in the fourth and nine more in the fifth as the Gamecocks scored nine times in the two innings to take control of the game. Four hits, a walk, a passed ball, a strikeout wild pitch that allowed Floyd to reach, and a sacrifice fly plated five runs in the fourth.

In the fifth inning the Gamecocks scored four times on five hits including a two run homer by Gonce, his fifth of the season. Whittaker hit a two run home run, his 17th, in the sixth inning to complete the scoring.

Auburn's eight hits were by eight difference players with doubles by Harrison and Brad Pickrell the only extra base hits.

Chris Plummer had three hits for South Carolina with Gonce, Brennan Dees and Floyd contributing two each. Gonce, who has 38 hits in 76 at bats against Conference opponents for a .500 league average, had seven hits in 12 at bats in the Kentucky series. Dees was also seven for 12 against Kentucky.

In the race for a spot in the Southeastern Conference Tournament May 16-20 at Birmingham, South Carolina is in a three way tie for fifth spot with Mississippi State and Florida. All three have 15-12 records with three conference games remaining. Auburn is eighth at 13-14 and Alabama ninth, 12-15.

Mathematically, depending on final week results, South Carolina could rise as high as a tie with Georgia for the SEC championship or as low as ninth.

South Carolina travels to Gainesville to finish the regular season with three games against the Florida Gators. Mississippi State closes out its schedule at Mississippi which is 16-11 and third in overall standings.

Georgia, 18-9 is first in the overall race and closes its season at last place Kentucky. LSU, which was swept over the weekend at Arkansas, is second at 17-10 and is at home this weekend against Auburn. Tennessee, 16-11 and tied for third with Mississippi, ends its regular season at Vanderbilt, 8-19.

Arkansas, 11-16 but a three game winner against LSU, is at Alabama.

KENTUCKY 200 100 000 – 3-8-1
SOUTH CAROLINA 010 542 00x – 12-13-0

Hahn, Michael (4), Blanton (5), Hooker (6) and Brock. Spigner, Price (4), Taylor (7), Gronkiewicz (8) and Whittaker, Powell (8). W—Price (4-0). L—Hahn (3-5). Save—None. 2B—UK, Harrison, Pickrell; USC, Gonce. HR—UK, Stephens (1); USC, Gonce (5), Whittaker (17).

SOUTH CAROLINA DEFEATS FLORIDA BASEBALL 6-3

GAINESVILLE, Fla.- No. 24/15/21 South Carolina took advantage of an 8.0 inning pitching performance from Kip Bouknight and held off a late rally to defeat Florida 6-3 Friday at McKethan Stadium. The loss dropped Florida to 32-22 overall and 15-13 in the SEC while South Carolina improved to 40-14 overall and 16-12 in the SEC.

Bouknight (9-0) threw 132 pitches, scattered 11 hits and held the Gators to three runs. He also struck out four batters. Lee Gronkiewicz pitched the ninth inning for his 14th save of the season.

South Carolina went up 2-0 in the second inning on Tripp Kelly's two-run home run. The Gamecocks made it 3-0 in the fourth when Garris Gonce scored on an error advancing to home.

Florida made it 3-1 in the fourth on Pat Osborn's RBI groundout.

South Carolina extended its lead to 5-2 in the fifth, scoring on Brennan Dees' sacrifice fly and Garris Gonce's RBI single to leftfield.

The Gators battled back with two runs in the bottom of the fifth when Aaron Davidson advanced to third on Jason Dill's fielders' choice and scored on a throwing error along with Peter Nystrom's sacrifice fly. That was as close as the Gators came.

Florida starter Keith Brice (2-5) took the loss after pitching a strong 7.2 innings. He allowed nine hits, six runs (four earned), two walks and struck out three batters. Reliever Jay Belflower pitched the final 2.1 innings.

The game saw seven errors while the two teams left 21 runners on base (Florida 12).

Florida rallied in the ninth as it put two runners on base with two outs and the tying run at the plate (Matt Goss) but Gronkiewicz registered the final out.

With the win, South Carolina clinches a berth in the SEC Tournament. Game two is Saturday at 4 p.m. The game will be televised live on Fox Sports Net as the SEC Game of the Week. Sunday's game is scheduled for 1:30 p.m.



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BASEBALL GAME 55

5.13.2001

Florida Downs South Carolina 14-7

GAINESVILLE, FL.- Florida scored four times in each of the first three innings and added two more in the fourth to defeat South Carolina 14-7 in the second game of a three game SEC baseball series. South Carolina is now 40-15 overall, 16-13 in league play, and Florida improves to 33-22, 16-13 in SEC play. Florida starter Jimmy Ranshaw earned the win to improve to 5-3, while Gamecock starter Gary Bell was charged with his fifth loss of the season.

The Gamecocks jumped out to its only lead of the game in the first inning. Brennan Dees singled to left and advanced to second on an error by leftfielder Jason Dill. He would score on Garris Gonce's single to left.

The Gators exploded for four runs in their half of the first. Bell (10-5) retired the first two batters, but then issued a walk to Mark Kiger, followed by back-to-back singles by Dill and Peter Nystrom. Kiger scored on Nystrom's single to tie the game at one. Dill would score on Matt Goss' single to left, followed by a Pat Osborn walk to load the bases. Aaron Sobieraj then singled to center to score Nystrom. Goss would score right behind Nystrom when Gamecock centerfielder Marcus McBeth's throw home was high.

Carolina answered right back in the second with a pair of runs. Tripp Kelly hit a leadoff single and moved to second on a balk by Ramshaw. Ramshaw then issued back-to-back walks to Landon Powell and Chris Plummer to load the bases, and then walked McBeth to score Kelly. Drew Meyer hit a sacrifice fly to left to score Powell to close the gap to 4-3.

Florida put up a four spot again in the second. Kevin Estrada reached on a catcher's interference, moved to second on a passed ball, then stole third. Aaron Davidson reached on a throwing error by Meyer, which scored Estrada. Kiger then singled to right, Dill reached on an error by second baseman Bryon Jeffcoat to load the bases for Nystrom, who promptly walked to score Davidson. Osborn then hit a sacrifice fly to center, scoring Kiger. Soberiaj then walked to chase Bell from the game. Blake Taylor came in and gave up a single to catcher Brian Rose to score Dill for an 8-3 Gator lead.

Carolina answered right back with one run in the third on Michael Floyd's third homerun of the season. Florida put up a four spot for the third straight inning on Matt Goss' tenth homerun of the year, a grand slam to right for a 12-4 Gator lead. Florida closed their scoring in the fourth when Davidson singled to center, then stole second base. Kiger followed with an infield single, moving Davidson to third. Kiger then stole second, followed by a Dill walk to load the bases. Nystrom then singled to left to score Davidson and Kiger.

Carolina would score three in the ninth. Powell and McBeth walked, followed by a Drew Meyer single to right center, scoring Powell and moving McBeth to third. He would score on Dees' single to left. Gonce was hit by a pitch for the SEC leading 17th time this season, loading the bases for Floyd. Floyd grounded into a fielders choice, canceling Gonce, but Meyer scored

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BASEBALL

GAME 56

5.13.2001

Carolina Defeats Florida 6-4, Clinches Series Win

GAINESVILLE, FL.— South Carolina held off a late Florida rally and used strong pitching to defeat Florida 6-4 and win its first SEC road series of the year. With the win, Carolina improves to 41-15, 17-13 in SEC play, while Florida drops to 33-23, 16-14 in the SEC. With the win, Carolina assures itself of at least a sixth seed in next week's conference tournament, and could move to the fifth spot with a Mississippi loss.

Florida scored first on a leadoff single by Kevin Estrada, stole second, moved to third on a fly ball, and scored on a Mark Kiger groundout to shortstop for a 1-0 Gator lead. Carolina answered with four runs in the third. Chris Plummer hit a one out single, moved to second on a Marcus McBeth walk, then scored on Brennan Dees' single to left to tie the game at one. Florida starter Alex Hart then threw a wild pitch, scoring McBeth from third. Garris Gonce then hit his sixth homerun of the year, a two run shot to right center, his sixth, for a 4-1 Gamecock lead after three frames.

Florida scored a pair of runs in the fourth. Gamecock starter Chris Spigner gave up three straight singles, leading to Estrada's sacrifice fly to right, scoring Pat Osborn. Aaron Davidson followed with a single to left, scoring Sobieraj. Tony Adler, who relieved Spigner prior to Estrada's at bat, uncorked a wild pitch, scoring Brian Rose. Brett Price entered the game and recorded the final out of the inning and end the threat. Regaining the lead in the sixth, Carolina used a three straight singles to push one run across. Gonce hit an infield single, followed by Tim Whittaker's single to left, and then Michael Floyd singled to center to score Gonce. The single extended Floyd's hitting streak to a team high 13 games.

The Gamecocks would add another run in the seventh on a bizarre play. Drew Meyer appeared to strikeout to end the inning. However, as the Gator defense was running off of the field, Meyer took off for first base and reached third before anyone knew what happened. The home plate umpire ruled that the third strike was not caught by the catcher, nor did he throw to first to complete the strikeout. Meyer ended up at third, and then Dees singled to left, his third hit of the day, to score Meyer to increase the Gamecock lead to 6-4, which would be the final.

Brett Price earned his fifth win of the year in relief, while Gator reliever Keith Ramsey was charged with his third loss of the season. Lee Gronkiewicz pitched the final 2 1/3 innings to earn his 15th save, which ties the school record for saves in a season, equalling Scott Barber's mark, which he set last season. Dees finished the game 3-3, with a double and two singles. The win clinches at least the sixth seed for Carolina in the upcoming SEC Tournament, which will be held next week in Birmingham, Alabama.

SOUTH CAROLINA--004	001	000	6-10-0
FLORIDA-----100	300	000	4-6-0

Spigner, Adler(4), Price (4), Gronkiewicz (7) and Whittaker. Hart,

http://www.uscsports.com/sports/bbc_florida2_051301.html

5/15/2001

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BASEBALL GAME 57

5.16.2001

Gamecocks Fall To Mississippi State 2-1 In SEC Tournament

HOOVER, AL.- Jon Knott's two-out, eighth inning double broke a 1-1 deadlock to lift fourth seeded Mississippi State past fifth seed South Carolina 2-1 in game three of the SEC Tournament in Hoover, Alabama. Knott's double to left came after right fielder Josh West singled to left of off Carolina starter Kip Bouknight (9-3), who baffled the Bulldog offense for seven plus innings. He suffered his third loss of the season while Bulldog starter Paul Maholm (7-4) earned his seventh win of the year. With the win, Mississippi State improved to 33-21 on the season, and along with it its NCAA Tournament hopes, while Carolina is now 41-16.

The Bulldogs scored its first run of the game when leadoff hitter Michael Brown hit and inside-the-park homerun to center, his fourth of the year. Gamecock centerfielder Marcus McBeth caught the ball momentarily, but crashed into the wall and the ball fell out of his glove. He was down for a few moments, but regained his wits and stayed in the game. Carolina scored its only run of the game in the fifth. Bryon Jeffcoat led off with a single to center, moved to second on McBeth's groundout to the catcher, and scored on Drew Meyer's only hit of the game, a single to right-center to tie the game at one, which stood until Knott's efforts in the eighth.

Gamecock right fielder Michael Floyd was 3-4 in the game - all singles- the only Gamecock batter to have more than one hit. He extended his hitting streak to a team season high 14 games. Bouknight pitched a complete game, striking out five and allowing nine hits, while Maholm allowed seven hits and struck out four Gamecock batters. The Gamecocks will play the loser of the Georgia-Auburn contest tomorrow at the Hoover Met, beginning at 1:00 p.m. (CDT) Thursday.

SOUTH CAROLINA 000 010 000 1-7-1

MISSISSIPPI STATE 100 000 010 2-9-0

Bouknight and Whittaker. Maholm, Medders(9) and Burkley. 2B-Knott. HR-Brown (4)
 W-Maholm (7-4)
 L- Bouknight (9-3)
 Save- Medders (5).

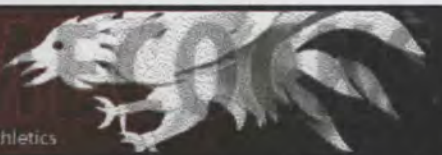
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BASEBALL GAME 58

5.17.2001

South Carolina Uses Three Homeruns to Defeat Auburn 5-4

HOOVER, AL.- South Carolina scored four of their five runs via the homerun and used strong pitching and defense to defeat Auburn 5-4 and advance in the SEC Tournament in Hoover, Alabama. South Carolina moves to 42-16 on the year, while Auburn falls to 35-19.

Gamecock closer and first team All-SEC performer Lee Gronkiewicz picked up his 16th save of the year, which broke the school record for most saves in a single season. The previous record had been 15, which was set by Scott Barber last season.

Auburn got on the board first in the opening inning. Tiger leadoff hitter Javon Moran was hit by a pitch, moved to third on Mailon Kent's single to right center, and scored on Todd Faulkner's groundout to third.

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Insider

Carolina answered with three runs in the bottom of the first. Marcus McBeth led off with a towering blast to right center, his 15th of the season to tie the game at one. After a Michael Floyd single to left, which extended his hitting streak to 15 games, catcher Tim Whittaker hit his 18th homer of the year, a two run shot to left to give Carolina a 3-1 lead, which they would never relinquish.

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SOUTH CAROLINA

Auburn scored a single run in the fourth. Justin Christian walked and scored on Brett Burnham's double to left center field. Leftfielder Garris Gonce made it a 4-2 Carolina lead with his seventh homer of the year, a solo shot to left. In the seventh, Carolina extended the lead to 5-2. Tripp Kelly reached when Christian dropped a popup in short right field, moved to second on Chris Plummer's sacrifice bunt, and scored on Drew Meyer's single to right center.

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Carolina hung on for dear life in the ninth. After giving up two runs, Gronkiewicz struck out Burnham on three pitches with the bases loaded to preserve the 13th win over Auburn in the last 14 games. Brett Price (6-0) picked up his sixth straight decision in relief of starter Gary Bell. Price pitched 2 1/3 scoreless innings, giving up only one hit. Auburn starter Cory Dueitt (3-4) picked up the loss.

NCAA

Carolina moves on to play the loser of the Georgia-Mississippi State contest tomorrow night at 6:00 p.m (CDT) at the Hoover Met.

AUBURN 100 100 002 4-7-2

SOUTH CAROLINA 300 001 10x 5-9-1

Bell, Price (5), Gronkiewicz (7) and Whittaker.

Dueitt, Brandon (7) and Pratt.

2B-Kent, Burnham. HR-McBeth (15), Gonce (7), Whittaker (18).

W-Price (6-0). L-Dueitt (3-4) Save-Gronkiewicz (16)



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BASEBALL GAME 59

5.19.2001

Spigner Tosses Complete Game As Carolina Bombs UGA 10-2

HOOVER, AL.- Gamecock starter Chris Spigner pitched his first career complete game and Tim Whittaker's fifth inning grand slam lifted fifth seeded South Carolina past SEC regular season champion and number one seed Georgia 10-2 and advance to a rematch with Mississippi State Friday afternoon at 1:30 (CDT). Carolina improves to 43-16 on the year, and Georgia falls to 41-18.

Spigner (7-4) earned his seventh win of the year, scattering four hits and giving up two unearned runs. He struck out six Bulldog batters. Georgia starter Scott Murphy (5-2) was charged with the loss. Carolina opened the scoring in the third inning. Bryon Jeffcoat hit a leadoff single, stole second, and scored on Marcus McBeth's single to left. A Michael Floyd single single to center, which extended his hitting streak to 16 games, scored Chris Plummer from second, who had walked before McBeth's at bat.

Gamecock
Insider

In the fourth, Whittaker singled to left, moved to third on Brennan Dees' single to right on a hit and run, and scored when Jeffcoat hit into a double play.

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Carolina scored four runs with one swing of the bat in the fifth. Drew Meyer drew a one out walk, moved to second on an error by Bulldog first baseman Blake Bodenmiller on a pickoff attempt, and moved to third on Floyd's single to right. Floyd would steal second, followed by a Garris Gonce walk to load the bases. Whittaker then took a 3-2 offering from Murphy over the centerfield wall for his 19th homer of the year, and his third career grand slam.



Georgia scored two unearned runs in the fifth to cut the lead to 7-2, but Carolina effectively ended the game in the sixth by scoring three runs. Tripp Kelly led off with a double, moved to third on Plummer's sacrifice bunt, and scored on Meyer's single to right. Meyer would move to second on the throw to third. Floyd followed with his third hit of the night, a single to right that scored Plummer and Meyer for a 10-2 Carolina lead. The Gamecocks pounded out 12 hits, and everyone in the lineup except Gonce had at least one hit. Floyd was 3-4 on the night with three runs batted in. Carolina now must defeat Mississippi State twice Saturday in order to advance to the SEC Tournament Championship game on Sunday. David Marchbanks will go to the hill for Carolina in the first game. The Bulldogs defeated Carolina 2-1 in the first meeting of the tournament.



GEORGIA	000	002	000	2-4-2
SOUTH CAROLINA	002	143	00x	10-12-4

Spigner and Whittaker. Murphy, Havel (6), Lawson (56), Moorhead (8) and Burchett. 2B-Keppinger, Kelly. HR-Whittaker (19).
W-Spigner (7-4) L-Murphy (5-2) Save-None.



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BASEBALL GAMES 60-61

5.19.2001

Gamecocks Split a Pair of Games With Mississippi State

HOOVER, AL. — South Carolina split with Mississippi State in a pair of elimination games tonight at the SEC Tournament. Needing two wins to move on to the SEC Tournament Championship game, Carolina won the opener in dramatic fashion, but lost the nightcap and was eliminated from the tournament. Garris Gonce's two-out, ninth inning inside-the-park homerun in game one lifted Carolina past the Bulldogs and force game two.

Carolina held a 6-0 advantage through five and half innings, but after a rain delay, the Bulldogs scored four runs in the bottom of the fifth to cut the lead to 6-4. MSU then added two more runs in the seventh to tie the game at six.

In the ninth, Gonce drove a 2-1 offering from Bulldog reliever Josh Wooten to the wall in right center field. Right fielder Josh West misjudged the ball, allowing the ball to fall. Gonce, who ran hard the entire play, ran through a stop sign put up by Gamecock third base coach Jim Toman, but the throw home was bobbled by catcher Jason Burkley and allowing Gonce to score the winning run.

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Gamecock closer Lee Gronkiewicz earned his second win of the season in relief, pitching the final 2 2/3 innings, including a one-two-three ninth to seal the win.

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With the win, Carolina had to defeat the Bulldogs one more time in order to advance to the SEC Tournament Championship Game, but it wasn't to be. Bulldog starter Joey Collums and closer Brandon Medders shut down the Carolina offense for a 1-0 win. It was the first time since May 20, 1999, in a loss to Mississippi in the SEC Tournament, that the Gamecocks did not score a run. It was a span of 126 games.

SEC
CONFERENCE

The Bulldogs scored their only run in the fifth, an unearned run off of Carolina starter Blake Taylor, who pitched 7 2/3 innings of solid baseball. Taylor, in his first career start, struck out six and walked two.

NCAA

The loss in the nightcap eliminated Carolina from the SEC Tournament, who will now await word from the NCAA as to which three teams will visit Sarge Frye Field for the NCAA Regional, which begins Friday. The tournament bracket will be announced Monday at 3:00 p.m., live on ESPN

KIP BOUKNIGHT PITCHES 16-0 SHUTOUT OVER THE CITADEL IN NCAA REGIONAL

COLUMBIA, SC – Kip Bouknight shut The Citadel out 16-0 behind a 16 hit South Carolina attack that featured four home runs Friday night before an overflow crowd of 6,040 in the opening round of the NCAA regional baseball tournament at Sarge Frye Field.

The second seeded Gamecocks, 45-17, will meet top seeded Central Florida, 50-12, at 3 p.m., Saturday in the winner's bracket of the double elimination tournament. The Citadel, 38-23, meets 22-24 Princeton at 11 a.m., in the loser's bracket. Princeton was edged by Central Florida, 13-12 in 12 innings in Friday's first game.

Bouknight improved his career record to 45-11, tying the Southeastern Conference mark of 45 victories set by Jeff Brantley of Mississippi State, 1982-85. It was his third complete game of the 2001 season and 13TH of the senior right-hander's career. He allowed seven hits, struck out eight, walked none and went to a three ball count on only three batters. He threw 121 pitches.

Bouknight's season record improved to 10-3. Eric Talbert, 8-3, the first of four Bulldog pitchers, was charged with the loss. He allowed six hits and five runs, four of them earned, in six innings.

Drew Meyer, who also had a double, homered twice for the Gamecocks – in the fifth and eighth innings – his sixth and seventh of the season. The second came after a Marcus McBeth double. McBeth hit his 16th homer of the season in the fifth inning and also had a single. The McBeth and Meyer homers in the fifth were back to back.

South Carolina's fourth and final home run of the game was a bases loaded pinch hit in the eighth inning by Trey Dyson, his first homer of the season and 101st by the Gamecock team.

Garris Gonce reached on an error in the second inning and scored on a base hit by Tripp Kelly to give South Carolina a 1-0 lead. Gonce singled in his next four at bats to retake the team batting lead at .362. ahead of Michael Floyd who dropped to .349. Floyd beat out an infield hit his final at bat to stretch his hitting streak to 19 games.

The game remained 1-0 until the fifth inning when the Gamecocks scored three times and they added a run in the sixth to make it 5-0. Five hits in the seventh inning chased home five more runs to break the game open at 10-0. Six more scored in the eighth highlighted by Dyson's grand slam pinch hitting for Kelly.

The only real threat to Bouknight's shutout occurred in the eighth inning when The Citadel loaded the bases on singles by Brook Dantzler, Andy Phillips and Dallas McPherson. Philip Hartig hit into a fielder's choice to end the threat.

Darryl Byrd doubled with one out in the first inning for the Bulldogs but was stranded. Dantzler singled in the third, McPherson in the fourth and Stuart Jordan singled with one out in the seventh.

THE CITADEL 000 000 000 – 0-7-1

SOUTH CAROLINA 010 031 56x – 16-16-0

Talbert, Hamer (7), Pollock (7), Jenkins (8) and Randall. Bouknight and Whittaker. W—Bouknight (10-3). L—Talbert (8-3). Save—None. 2B—Cit, Byrd; USC, McBeth, Meyer. HR—Meyer 2(7), McBeth (16), Dyson (1).

GAME 63

For Immediate Release
May 26, 2001

TOP-SEEDED UCF ROLLS INTO CHAMPIONSHIP GAME WITH 8-6 WIN OVER SOUTH CAROLINA

COLUMBIA, S.C. – It was not his best performance, but Central Florida All-American pitcher Justin Pope led his team to the NCAA Regional Championship round for the second-straight season with an 8-6 win over second-seeded South Carolina.

The Golden Knights (51-12) defeated Florida State last season in Tallahassee last to advance to the final day. As the only remaining undefeated team, whatever team reaches the final day will have to beat UCF twice. With the win, Pope moves to 15-1 this season, Gamecock reliever Brett Price took the loss and fell to 6-1.

After battling back twice from deficits yesterday against Princeton, the Knights looked to avoid the uphill climb against the Gamecocks. With the game tied at 5-5 in the top of the seventh inning, UCF put up a three spot and never looked back. Three-straight hits, two doubles and a single, got the rally started for UCF. Greg Good doubled to right center, followed by a single by Mike Myers to score Good. UCF took the 7-5 advantage with an RBI double by Jeremy Kurella who was 2-3 on the day. After Blake Taylor replaced pitcher, Brett Price, USC allowed only one more run in the inning, but the damage was done.

Unlike its 13-12 extra inning win against Princeton, the Golden Knights wasted no time getting on the scoreboard against USC. In the second, catcher Jeremy Frost's 12th home run of the season gave UCF the early 2-0 lead. Mike Myers scored another run in the third off of a Chad Ehrnsberger single to center to stretch the lead to 3-0.

But the Gamecocks, who defeated The Citadel 16-0 on Friday, would not go down without a fight. In the bottom of the fourth inning, USC plated four runs off of the All-American Pope. Tim Whittaker singled to left scored on senior Brennan Dees's 13th home run of the year. After a Bryon Jeffcoat double, Pope fell into a little wildness. After a passed ball and two wild pitches, Jeffcoat scored and Chris Plummer moved to third. Plummer gave the Gamecocks the lead, scoring on a ground out.

Jeffcoat continued to keep Carolina in the game by himself. The final two Carolina runs came on Jeffcoat home runs in the sixth and eighth innings. Pope had allowed only two home runs all season, but the Gamecocks were able to hit three in the losing cause.

"We're in the same place as we were last year at Florida State and Justin (Pope) got us here," UCF Head Coach Jay Bergman said. "He made a great commitment to his heart. That was the ballgame, right there. In fact, everybody on the team made that commitment."

The winner of the South Carolina/Princeton elimination game will take on UCF at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday with the possibility of facing the Knights again at 5:30 p.m.

GAME 64

GAMECOCKS REMAIN ALIVE IN NCAA REGIONAL WITH 11-7 WIN OVER PRINCETON

Columbia, SC – South Carolina outscored Princeton 11-7 in an elimination game Saturday night to remain alive in the NCAA regional baseball tournament.

The second seeded Gamecocks, 46-18, meet number one seed Central Florida at 1:30 p.m., Sunday. The Gamecocks must defeat Central Florida twice to advance to a super regional next weekend. Central Florida, 51-12, defeated South Carolina 8-6 Saturday afternoon in a winner's bracket game after Princeton eliminated The Citadel 11-6. If a second game is necessary it will start at 5:30 p.m. at Sarge Frye Field.

Princeton jumped out to a 2-0 first inning lead Saturday night when South Carolina starter Chris Spigner gave up three hits and walked two. He threw 39 pitches in the inning. Princeton starter Mark Siano retired the first nine Gamecocks but four consecutive singles leading off the fourth inning plus a sacrifice and a sacrifice fly resulted in a short lived 3-2 South Carolina lead.

Princeton countered with a three run home run by Eric Fitzgerald in the bottom of the fourth to lead 5-3., but South Carolina tied it in the fifth with a pair of runs on hits by Chris Plummer and Drew Meyer wrapped around a double by Marcus McBeth. Princeton quickly regained the lead with a run in the bottom of the inning on a solo home run by Mickey Martin.

South Carolina added two in the top of the sixth to lead 7-6 on two hits, a walk, an error and the first of two sacrifice flies by Troy Dyson who entered as a pinch hitter and remained to play first base. Princeton scored its final run to tie the score at 7-7 in the bottom of the sixth on a double by Tim Phillips who moved to third on a sacrifice bunt and scored on an infield out.

Tim Whittaker hit his 20th home run of the season in the seventh inning to give the Gamecocks an 8-7 lead. They added one in the eighth when Dyson doubled, was sacrificed to third and scored on McBeth's sacrifice fly. Two hits and a pair of Princeton errors added two insurance runs in the top of the ninth.

Freshman left-hander David Marchbanks threw just six pitches in the sixth inning in relief of Spigner and was credited with the win, improving his record to 6-1. All-America closer Lee Gronkiewicz earned his NCAA leading 17th save. He worked the final three innings and allowed one hit while striking out five. He lowered his earned run average to 1.34 in 50 2/3 innings. He has struck out 67.

Bill Broome, 3-3, the second of three Princeton pitchers, was charged with the loss.

South Carolina collected 14 hits, three by Meyer and two each by McBeth, Whittaker and Plummer. Pat Boran had three of 10 hits for Princeton and Martin and McNally each had two. The Tigers, who finished with a 23-25 record, banded out 50 hits in the regional games.

In the South Carolina-Central Florida game the Gamecocks out hit the Golden Knights 11-10 but were outscored 8-6. All-America right-hander Justin Pope pitched a complete game to improve his record to 15-1 despite walking six and throwing four wild pitches. Brett Price, the third of four Gamecock pitchers, suffered his first loss of the season. His record is 6-1.

Jeremy Frost hit his 12th home run for Central Florida while South Carolina homered three times. Bryon Jeffcoat hit his two, his 14th and 15th, and Brennan Dees hit his 13th.

SOUTH CAROLINA 000 322 112 – 11-14-1

PRINCETON 200 311 000 – 7-10-5

Spigner, Marchbanks (6), Gronkiewicz (7) and Whittaker. Siano, Broome (5), Rowland (8) and Hildreth. W—Marchbanks (6-1). L—Broome (3-3). Save—Gronkiewicz (17). 2B—PU, Boran 2, Phillips; USC, McBeth, Meyer, Dyson. HR—PU, Martin (3), Fitzgerald (1); USC, Whittaker (20).

SSOUTH CAROLINA SWEEPS CENTRAL FLORIDA 9-7, 5-2 TO WIN NCAA REGIONAL

Columbia, SC – South Carolina defeated Central Florida twice Sunday to win the NCAA Regional Tournament and advance to a Super Regional with Blake Taylor and Kip Bouknight combining to hold the number one seeded Knights to two runs in the deciding game which the Gamecocks won 5-2 after taking the first contest 9-7.

The South Carolina offense backed the strong pitching of Taylor and Bouknight with home runs by Tripp Kelly, Garris Gonce and Tim Whittaker and nine total hits. The Gamecocks pounded out 14 hits in the first game including a home run by Bryon Jeffcoat.

Taylor, 4-3, made his second start of the season and pitched 5 1/3 innings to earn the win. He allowed four hits and one run with one walk and four strikeouts. Bouknight, pitching on one day's rest after a complete game shutout of The Citadel Friday night, came out of the bullpen to earn his second save. He worked the final 3 2/3 innings, allowing three hits and one run, a bases empty homer by Mike Myers in the seventh inning to narrow South Carolina's lead to 3-2.

Jason Arnold, who pitched 5 2/3 innings of relief to defeat Princeton Friday night, started for Central Florida and was charged with the loss to drop his record to 14-2.

After four scoreless innings South Carolina struck for three runs in the bottom of the fifth. Bryon Jeffcoat opened the rally with a double and pinch hitter Trey Dyson singled him home. Kelly fouled off two pitches attempting to bunt and then lined a shot over the left field fence for a two run home run. It was his ninth of the year and 41st of the senior first baseman's career.

Central Florida got one run back in the top of the sixth inning. Andy Johnson doubled with one out and Chad Ehrnsberger reached on an error that sent Johnson to third. Bouknight relieved Taylor and gave up a bloop single to Mike Fox that scored Johnson before Bouknight retired the side.

The seventh inning homer by Myers, his sixth, cut the South Carolina lead to 3-2 but Gonce and Whittaker hit back to back one out homers in the bottom of the eighth inning to widen the lead to 5-2. It was the ninth of the year for Gonce and 21st for Whittaker.

Central Florida had threatened in the top of the eighth with a two out double by Fox and a walk, but Bouknight struck out Bill Oakley to end the inning. In the ninth he retired the Knights in order on a ground out and two called third strikes.

In the earlier game freshman left-hander David Marchbanks started and picked up his second win in less than 24 hours. He worked an inning and got the win that eliminated Princeton Saturday night. All America closer Lee Gronkiewicz saved both of the Marchbanks wins to increase his NCAA leading total to 18. Marchbanks improved his record to 7-1.

South Carolina sent 11 batters to the plate in the third inning of the first game to take a 7-0 lead. A three run homer by Jeffcoat, his 16th, was the big blow of the inning. Central Florida scored one run in the bottom of the third and cut the Gamecock lead to 7-6 with five in the fifth, including a grand slam home run by Fox, his ninth of the season.

The Gamecocks added single runs in the sixth and seventh or the final 9-7 margin. Burt Clark, 5-1, the Central Florida starter, took the loss.

South Carolina and Central Florida dominated the all-tournament team, taking 10 of the 11 spots with one – outfielder Mickey Martin – going to Princeton. Seven Gamecocks made the all-tournament team including pitchers Bouknight and Gronkiewicz, catcher Whittaker, second baseman Jeffcoat, shortstop Drew Meyer and outfielders Marcus McBeth and Michael Floyd. Central Florida's three all-tournament players were first baseman Greg Good, third baseman Fox and designated hitter Andy Johnson.

Bouknight was voted the tournament's Most Valuable Player.

First Game

SOUTH CAROLINA 007 001 100 - 9-14-0

CENTRAL FLORIDA 001 050 010 - 7-13-1

Marchbanks, Gronkiewicz (7) and Whittaker. Clark, Cerrato and Frost. W—Marchbanks (7-1). L—Clark (5-1). Save—Gronkiewicz (18). 2B—USC, Floyd, Dees, Plummer; UCF, Frost, Graham. HR—USC, Jeffcoat (16); UCF, Fox (9), Frost (13).

Second Game

CENTRAL FLORIDA 000 001 100 - 2-7-0

SOUTH CAROLINA 000 030 02x - 5-9-2

Taylor, Bouknight (6) and Whittaker. Arnold, Sutton (6) and Cox. W—Taylor (4-3). L—Arnolds (14-2). Save—Bouknight (2). 2B—UCF, Johnson, Fox; USC, Jeffcoat, Plummer. HR—UCF, Myers (6); USC, Kelly (9), Gonce (9), Whittaker (21).

5/30/01

UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

Carolina Baseball

GAMECOCKS PRACTICE AT SUNKEN DIAMOND: BOUKNIGHT PROBABLE STARTER

PALO ALTO, CA – The South Carolina baseball team practiced at the Sunken Diamond Thursday and Coach Ray Tanner said Kip Bouknight “if he feels good” would start against Stanford Friday night in the first game of the NCAA Super Regional.

“It will be Kip if he feels good,” Tanner told a post-practice news conference. He had held off on announcing a starter because Bouknight worked 11 2/3 innings over three days in pitching the Gamecocks to the regional championship in Columbia last weekend.

Tanner said if Bouknight isn't ready Friday (10 p.m., EDT) he would go with left-hander Gary Bell (10-5). Bouknight's record is 10-3 with two saves. He shut out The Citadel 16-0 with a complete game to open the regional and came back on one day's rest to save the 5-2 decisive game win over Central Florida on Sunday.

Tanner said he was excited to be among the 16 teams remaining in the hunt for the NCAA championship but conceded the Gamecocks have a tough assignment in the best of three series with Stanford, runner-up to Louisiana State in last year's College World Series.

“Stanford has great tradition, some strong arms and great defense,” Tanner said, “but we're playing very well over the past couple of weeks.

Stanford coach Mark Marquess echoed Tanner's assessment of the Stanford Cardinal. He said “we have strong pitching and the best defensive team we have ever had.” Stanford's team fielding percentage of .977 is near the top of the NCAA statistics while South Carolina .970 is also ranked.

“South Carolina is a veteran team (seven seniors) with great pitching and a lot of power,” Marquess said.

He noted that South Carolina's staff earned run average of 3.34 is better than Stanford's 3.40 which is also nationally ranked and the Gamecock long ball threat concerns him.

South Carolina has hit 109 home runs in 66 games and Marquess said, “Our job will be to keep the ball in the park.” The Sunken Diamond is a big park with distances of 335 feet to both foul poles, 375 in the power alleys and 400 in center field.

6/1/01

GAME 67

STANFORD STIFLES SOUTH CAROLINA WITH 17 HIT ATTACK; GUTHRIE CG

PALO ALTO, CA – Jeremy Guthrie limited South Carolina to six hits Friday night and Stanford unleashed a 17 hit attack to defeat the Gamecocks 11-1 in the first game of the NCAA Super Regional before 3,675 fans at the Sunken Diamond.

The second game of the best of three series is scheduled for 4 p.m., EDT Saturday with a third, if necessary, set for the same time on Sunday. South Carolina will have to defeat Stanford Saturday to force the third game. The super regional winner advances to the College World Series beginning next week in Omaha.

Guthrie, 12-4, was in complete charge. The only run he allowed was unearned in the eighth inning. South Carolina ace Kip Bouknight, 10-4, lasted just three plus innings and was reached for eight earned runs on 11 hits including bases empty home runs by Ryan Garko and Chris O'Riordan.

Garko homered in the first inning, his fifth of the season, and O'Riordan hit his 12th as Stanford scored four runs on six hits in the third inning. The Cardinal added five more in the fourth, batting around in both innings, to lead 10-0. The final Stanford run scored in the eighth.

South Carolina avoided a shutout with an unearned run in the top of the eighth. Trey Dyson led off with a pinch hit single and with one out moved to second when Marcus McBeth reached on an error. Drew Meyer singled to load the bases and Dyson scored when Guthrie walked Sheldon Brown. It was the only walk of the game by the sophomore right-hander.

Carlos Quentin had four hits for Stanford. Garko, Jonny Ash and Andy Topham had three each and O'Riordan had a double to go with his home run.

Drew Meyer and Bryon Jeffcoat had two hits each to account for four of South Carolina's six hits. Meyer doubled in the first inning. The other Gamecock hits were by Dyson and Chris Plummer.

SOUTH CAROLINA 000 000 010 -- 1-6-~~1~~

STANFORD 104 500 01x -- 11-17-1

Bouknight, Price (4), Bondurant (6), Wilson (8) and Whittaker, Powell (8). Guthrie and Garko, Tirpack (9). W—Guthrie (12-4). L—Bouknight (10-4). Save—None. 2B—USC, Meyer; SU, O'Riordan, Dragicevich. HR—SU, Garko (5), O'Riordan (12).

GAMECOCKS EDGE STANFORD 4-3 TO REMAIN ALIVE IN SUPER REGIONAL

PALO ALTO, CA – Held hitless for four innings Saturday South Carolina bunched seven of its eight hits in the fifth and sixth innings to edge Stanford 4-3 and force a third and deciding game in the NCAA Super Regional before 3,445 fans at the Sunken Diamond.

Game time Sunday is 4 p.m., EDT, with the winner advancing to the College World Series in Omaha. South Carolina, the home team in Saturday's game, won the coin toss and will be the home team again on Sunday. South Carolina improved its record to 49-19 while Stanford dropped to 47-16.

Blake Taylor, 5-3, in relief of starter Gary Bell, was the winning pitcher. All-America closer Lee Gronkiewicz held the Cardinal in check the final 2 2/3 innings to earn his NCAA leading 19th save. Stanford starter Mike Gosling, 7-2, was the loser.

Stanford took a 2-0 lead when Carlos Quentin was hit by a pitch and Jason Cooper doubled him to third to lead off the third inning. Quentin scored on a ground out by Andy Topham and Jonny Ash drove in Cooper with a sacrifice fly.

Except for two bases on balls to Marcus McBeth Gosling was perfect through four innings but four consecutive South Carolina hits gave the Gamecocks a 3-2 lead in the fifth. Singles by Tim Whittaker, Bryon Jeffcoat and Brennan Dees leading off the inning scored one run and Tripp Kelly doubled to drive in two more.

Michael Floyd singled to lead off the South Carolina sixth but was out attempting to advance when a pitch eluded Stanford catcher Ryan Garko. Back to back doubles by Garris Gonce and Whittaker followed and South Carolina upped its lead to 4-2. The Gamecocks managed only one more hit, a seventh inning single by McBeth, but hung on for the win.

Stanford's final run, in the seventh inning, was unearned. Scott Dragicevich smashed an infield hit off Taylor's ankle and raced all the way to third when Taylor recovered the ball and threw wildly to first. Dragicevich scored on a sacrifice fly by Arik VanZandt.

Gronkiewicz relieved Taylor at that point and gave up a hit to Chris O'Riordan on the first pitch. Gronkiewicz retired the next two to end the inning. A walk and a Gamecock error put two Cardinal base runners on in the eighth but Gronkiewicz pitched out of that jam and retired the Cardinal in order in the ninth.

At the post game press conference Gamecock Coach Ray Tanner said, "after last year this is where we want to be. If we can win tomorrow we go to Omaha." Last year, playing at home, South Carolina lost the deciding Super Regional game to Louisiana Lafayette to end a 56-10 season one game short of Omaha.

"We turned couple of double plays (actually three) and we got some good pitching," Tanner added. The Gamecock infield turned double plays to get out of jams in the third, fifth and sixth innings. Second baseman Jeffcoat, who had six putouts and four assists, was involved in all three.

Seven of South Carolina nine starters hit safely with Whittaker the only Gamecock with two hits. Stanford had nine hits to South Carolina's eight. Sam Fuld had three Cardinal hits, two of them doubles and Dragicevich had two hits.

STANFORD 000 200 100 – 3-9-0

SOUTH CAROLINA 000 031 00X – 4-8-3

Gosling, McCally (5), Hudgins (6) and Garko. Bell, Taylor (5), Gronkiewicz (7) and Whittaker. W—Taylor (5-3). L—Gosling (7-2). Save—Gronkiewicz (19). 2B—SU, Fuld 2, Cooper; USC, Gonce, Whittaker.

STANFORD EDGES GAMECOCKS 3-2, ADVANCES TO COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

PALO ALTO, CA – Tim Whittaker's bid for a fifth consecutive hit Sunday was foiled by Stanford shortstop Scott Dragicevich who made a diving game ending catch as the Cardinal edged South Carolina to advance from the NCAA Super Regional to the College World Series.

For the second consecutive year a 3-2 loss denied South Carolina a trip to Omaha. Last year South Carolina lost the super regional decisive game 3-2 at home to Louisiana Lafayette. The 2001 Gamecocks finished with a 49-20 record while Stanford will take a 48-16 record to the World Series which begins Friday in Omaha.

Mike Wodnicki, 6-1, was the winning pitcher in relief of starter Jeff Bruksch with J. D. Willcox working the final 1 2/3 innings to earn his sixth save. Blake Taylor, 5-4, a surprise starter for the Gamecocks after getting the win as a reliever in the 4-3 Saturday night South Carolina victory, was charged with the loss.

Taylor pitched four shutout innings but hit Jonny Ash with a pitch to open the Stanford fifth. Andy Topham followed with his seventh home run of the season over the right field fence to give Stanford a 2-1 lead. Kip Bouknight, pitching on one day's rest for the second consecutive weekend, relieved Taylor and allowed one run in 2 1/3 innings before Lee Gronkiewicz held the Cardinal in check the final 2 2/3 innings.

Marcus McBeth hit his 17th home run to lead off the South Carolina fifth inning to cut Stanford's lead to 2-1, but the Cardinal made it 3-1 in the sixth. Ryan Garko walked, moved to second on a hit by Carlos Quentin, and scored when Ash doubled.

South Carolina scored in the eighth on Whittaker's fourth hit of the game, a sacrifice and a double by Tripp Kelly that scored Whittaker.

South Carolina left 12 runners stranded in the game, leaving two each in the second, fifth and eighth innings, one in the third, seventh and ninth and the Gamecocks left the bases loaded in the fourth inning.

Each team had nine hits with Chris O'Riordan going four for five for Stanford. No other Cardinal had more than one hit. In addition to four hits by Whittaker Michael Floyd had two for South Carolina.

STANFORD 000 021 000 – 3-9-1

SOUTH CAROLINA 000 010 010 – 2-9-0

Bruksch, Wodnicki (5), Willcox (8) and Garko. Taylor, Bouknight (5), Gronkiewicz (7) and Whittaker. W—Wodnicki (6-1). L—Taylor (5-4). Save—Willcox (6). 2B—SU, Ash, O'Riordan; USC, Kelly. HR—SU, Topham (7); USC, McBeth (17).