

2005 Gamecock Men's Golf



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University Facts

Location: Columbia, S.C.
Mailing Address: Rex Enright Athletic Center; 1300
Rosewood Drive, Univ. of South Carolina; Columbia, SC 29208
Founded: 1801
Enrollment: 23,700
Nickname: Gamecocks
Colors: Garnet (PMS 201) and Black
Mascot: Cocky
President: Dr. Andrew Sorensen
Faculty Representative: Dr. Russ Pate
Director of Athletics: Dr. Mike McGee
Senior Associate AD/Senior Women's Administrator: Val Sheley
Senior Associate AD/Business & Development: Brad Edwards
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Golf Quick Facts

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Sports Information Phone: (803) 777-5204
SID Student Asst., Men's Golf: Karen Saladyga
Affiliate: NCAA Division I
Conference: Southeastern
Head Coach: Puggy Blackmon
Seasons at USC/Overall: 10th/22nd
Alma Mater: Carson-Newman, 1973
Home Course: The University Club
NCAA Appearances: 14
(1978-84-88-89-91-92-93-96-97-98-99-2000-01-02)
Highest Final Ranking: 8th (1988)
2004 SEC Finish: 7th
Lettermen Returning: 5 (Alex Hamilton, Eirik Johansen, West Streib,
Jake Thompson, Robert Svensson)
Newcomers: 3 (Mark Anderson, Patrick Cuning, Warren Thomas)

Credits

The 2005 South Carolina men's golf media guide is a production of the South Carolina Sports Information Office. Writing, layout, design and editing by Christy Lang, publications coordinator. Cover design by Cindy Baldwin. Writing and editing also by Karen Saladyga, USC Sports Information student assistant. Special thanks to head coach Puggy Blackmon for his assistance in putting together this guide.

Photography: Jason Ayer, Puggy Blackmon, South Carolina Parks, Recreation and Tourism, Allen Sharpe.

Printed by Professional Printers, West Columbia, S.C.

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If you require special accommodations, please contact the Gamecock Athletics Ticket Office at (803) 777-4274.



University of South Carolina

Media Information

A Note to the Media

The University of South Carolina welcomes your attention to the 2005 Gamecock men's golf team. Any questions concerning USC men's golf should be directed to the USC Sports Information Office at (803) 777-5204. Interviews, statistics or general information concerning student-athletes or Coach Blackmon also should be handled through the Sports Information Office. Thank you for your interest in South Carolina men's golf and please let us know if there is any way we may assist you in your coverage of Gamecock Athletics.

Internet

The University of South Carolina has a home page (see at right) set up on the internet with information on all 20 varsity sports. To access the page, type www.uscsports.com. Schedules, rosters, coaches' bios and other information are available on the USC Athletics home page. Also, there are live audio updates daily and live audio of selected contests, as well as game-day information for football and basketball events. Call the USC SID office for further details.

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Men's Golf Office.....	(803) 777-7054
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2005 Gamecock Men's Golf



2005 Roster

2005-06 Men's Golf Roster

Name	Class	Height	Weight	Hometown/Previous School
Mark Anderson	Freshman	5'11"	175	Beaufort, S.C./Beaufort Academy
Patrick Cunning	Freshman	5'10"	155	Aiken, S.C./South Aiken
Alex Hamilton	Senior	6'0"	140	Aiken, S.C./South Aiken
Eirik Johansen	Junior	6'1"	195	Stavanger, Norway/St. Svithun
David Kite	R-Freshman	5'8"	155	Austin, Texas/Westlake
West Streib	Junior	6'2"	190	Atlanta, Ga./Marist
Robert Svensson	Junior	5'9"	170	Molby, Sweden/Klippan
Warren Thomas	Freshman	6'1"	200	Columbia, S.C./Richland Northeast
Jake Thompson	Senior	5'11"	5-11	Greenville, S.C./Greenville

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Eirik JOHANSEN -- Yo-han-sen
West STREIB -- Styeb

ROSTER BY CLASS

Freshmen (4)

Mark Anderson
Patrick Cunning
David Kite (RS)
Warren Thomas

Sophomores (0)

Juniors (3)

Eirik Johansen
West Streib (RS)
Robert Svensson

Seniors (2)

Alex Hamilton
Jake Thompson (RS)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

January

4 -- Patrick Cunning
7 -- Alex Hamilton

February

3 -- Warren Thomas
14 -- Mark Anderson

April

8 -- West Streib

May

23 -- Eirik Johansen

August

15 -- Robert Svensson

September

1 -- David Kite

November

18 -- Jake Thompson

GEOGRAPHICAL ROSTER

UNITED STATES (7)

Georgia (1)
Atlanta -- West Streib

South Carolina (5)

Aiken -- Patrick Cunning, Alex Hamilton
Beaufort -- Mark Anderson
Columbia -- Warren Thomas
Greenville -- Jake Thompson

Texas (1)

Austin -- David Kite

INTERNATIONAL - 2

Norway (1)
Stavanger -- Eirik Johansen

Sweden (1)

Molby -- Robert Svensson



University of South Carolina

2005 Outlook

The 2004-2005 University of South Carolina men's golf team looks to settle the score from 2004 with possibly the best roster in Gamecock history. They return all but one member of last year's record-setting roster and add a talent-rich freshman class from the state of South Carolina.

"There should be a reason for strong optimism," said head coach Puggy Blackmon. "Our squad is now staggered by classes and with the last two signing classes, we should be a strong force for several years to come."

Blackmon has high hopes for his team after last season's roller-coaster ride. The team began the spring 2004 season with an impressive performance at the Mercedes-Benz Collegiate Championship, blowing away a nationally-ranked field that included in-state rival and defending national champion Clemson. USC outdistanced second-place finisher Oklahoma State, the 2003 NCAA runner-up, by 28 strokes in capturing the team title.

Throughout the month of March, South Carolina looked to be on the verge of its best season ever, with thoughts of both a possible SEC victory and a national championship. April proved to be a disappointing month with lackluster performances continuing through the SEC Championship and the NCAA East Regional.

Despite the disappointing finishes at the SEC Championship and at the NCAA East Regional, the Gamecocks completed the 2003-2004 season by tying a school record of three team titles and two individual titles. Five letterwinners from last season's squad return: Eirik Johansen, Alex Hamilton, Robert Svensson, West Streib and Jake Thompson.

Junior All-American Eirik Johansen is the catalyst for South Carolina to contend for both SEC and NCAA titles after being named first-team All-SEC last season. He won the Palmetto Intercollegiate with the fourth-lowest three-round score in Gamecock history and placed second in both the Carpet Capital Collegiate and the Mercedes-Benz Collegiate. Johansen registered six top-10 and eight top-20 finishes.

"Eirik appears to be primed and committed to winning at a high level this spring and mentally ready to play at his potential," said Blackmon.

Senior All-SEC team member Alex Hamilton posted four top-10 and five top-20 finishes last season. He competed in 12 of the 13 tournaments



Alex Hamilton placed in the top 10 in four tournaments in 2004, including a fifth-place finish to lead USC at the SEC Championship.

and finished third on the team with a stroke average of 73.34. Hamilton was a member of both five-man squads that competed at the SEC Championship and the NCAA East Regional. He led the Gamecocks at the SEC Championship with a fifth-place finish.

"Coming off an excellent summer schedule and record, Alex once again should be a strong contender for All-SEC and possibly All-American," stated Blackmon. "Eirik and Alex should provide the on-course leadership that has been absent the last two years."

Competing in nine tournaments last season, junior Robert Svensson notched his first individual title at the Hawaii / Turtle Bay Intercollegiate and continues to show leadership. He finished the season with a stroke average of 75.30 and was a member of the five-man squad that competed at the NCAA East Regional.

"Robert has an extremely strong work ethic and determination and looks to be a very solid performer this season," said Blackmon.

Blackmon looks for junior West Streib and senior Jake Thompson to add depth to the team in 2004-05. Streib registered a low-round score of 70 in the SEC Championship and finished the season with a stroke average of 76.00. Thompson had his highest finish of 2003-04 at the Mercedes-Benz Collegiate, where he placed third. He finished in the top 10 once and the top 20 twice and competed at both the SEC Championship and NCAA East Regional.

Three talented freshmen, all from the state of South Carolina, enter the fold and should push the upperclassmen this season. Mark Anderson is the reigning South Carolina Junior Champion, Warren Thomas is an AJGA All-American and Patrick Cunning probably is the biggest sleeper of the three. These freshmen look to challenge the upperclassmen for tournament spots and they help the Gamecocks boast a solid group of standard classes for the first time.

Early indications suggest that 2005 could be an exciting season, but this squad is not taking anything for granted as they look to settle the score from 2004.



Eirik Johansen recorded six top-10 finishes and earned first-team All-SEC honors during his sophomore season in 2004.

2005 Gamecock Men's Golf



2004-05 Tournament Information

Bank of Tennessee Intercollegiate Sept. 10-12

Location.....Jonesboro, Tenn.
Course.....The Ridges Golf/Country Club
Host School N/A
SID Phone..... N/A
Pro Shop Phone 423-913-3100
Participating Teams (15): Alabama, Clemson, Duke, East Tennessee State, Florida State, Kansas, Louisiana State, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, TCU, Tennessee, Virginia Tech, Virginia, Wake Forest

Gary Koch/Cleveland Golf Invite Oct. 10-12

Location.....Tampa, Fla.
Course..... Old Memorial Golf Club
Host School Florida & Kentucky
SID Phone.....352-375-4683 ext. 6175
Pro Shop Phone 813-926-888
Participating Teams (15): Arkansas, College of Charleston, Florida, Florida State, Georgia State, Kentucky, LSU, North Florida, Ole Miss, Ohio State, Tennessee, Toledo, South Carolina, South Florida, UCF

Carpet Capital Collegiate Nov. 5-7

Location.....Rocky Force, Ga.
Course.....The Farm
Host School Georgia Tech
SID Phone..... 404-894-5445
Pro Shop Phone 706-673-4546
Participating Teams (18): Auburn, Augusta State, Clemson, Duke, East Tennessee State, Florida, Florida State, Georgia, Georgia Tech, New Mexico, NC State, South Florida, Southern California, Tennessee, TCU, Texas Tech, Vanderbilt, Wake Forest

Sun Trust Gator Invitational Feb. 5-6

Location.....Gainesville, Fla.
Course.....University Golf Club
Host School University of Florida
SID Phone.....352-375-4683 ext. 6175
Pro Shop Phone 352-375-4866
Participating Teams (15): College of Charleston, Florida, Florida State, Georgia Southern, Georgia State, Kentucky, LSU, North Florida, Ohio State, Purdue, South Carolina, Tennessee, UAB, UCF, Wake Forest

Mercedes Benz Collegiate Feb. 20-22

Location.....Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.
CourseSawgrass Country Club
Host SchoolUniversity of North Florida
SID Phone.....904-620-4025
Participating Teams (18): Alabama, Arkansas, Augusta State, Coastal Carolina, Duke, Florida, Florida State, Georgia State, Kentucky, LSU, North Florida, Northwestern, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vanderbilt, UAB, UCF, UCLA

Southern Highlands Collegiate Championship March 10-13

Location.....Las Vegas, Nev.
CourseSouthern Highlands
Host SchoolUNLV
SID Phone.....702-895-3995
Participating Teams (15): Arizona State, Auburn, Clemson, Florida, Georgia, Georgia Tech, New Mexico, Oklahoma State, South Carolina, TCU, Texas, UCLA, UNLV, Wake Forest, Washington

Schenkel EZ-Go Invitational March 20-21

Location.....Statesboro, Ga.
CourseForest Heights Country Club
Host SchoolGeorgia Southern
SID Phone.....912-681-5288
Pro Shop Phone912-764-3084
Participating Teams (15): Auburn, Augusta State, Clemson, Duke, Florida, Georgia, Georgia Southern, LSU, North Carolina, N.C. State, Ohio State, South Carolina, Southern California, Tennessee, Minnesota

Hootie at Bulls Bay March 25-29

Location.....Charleston, S.C.
CourseBulls Bay Golf Club
Host School South Carolina, Clemson and College of Charleston
Pro Shop Phone 843-881-2223
Participating Teams (15): Auburn, Alabama, Augusta State, Clemson, College of Charleston, Florida State, Georgia, Georgia Tech, Kentucky, Louisiana State, North Carolina, North Carolina State, South Carolina, Vanderbilt, Wake Forest

Augusta State Invitational April 1-3

Location.....Augusta, Ga.
Course.....Forest Hills Golf Club
Host SchoolAugusta State
SID Phone.....706-731-7925
Pro Shop Phone706-733-0001
Participating Teams (15): Alabama, Augusta State, Central Florida, Clemson, Duke, East Tennessee State, Georgia, Georgia Southern, Minnesota, North Carolina, North Carolina State, North Florida, Notre Dame, South Carolina, Southern California, Toledo, Virginia Tech, Wake Forest

SEC Championship April 14-17

Location.....Sea Island, Ga.
Course.....Seaside
HostSoutheastern Conference
SID Phone.....205-458-3010
Participating Teams (12): Alabama, Arkansas, Auburn, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, LSU, Ole Miss, Mississippi State, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vanderbilt

UK Derby Invitational May 8-10

Location.....Lexington, Ky.
Course.....University Club of Kentucky (Big Blue Course)
SID Phone.....859-257-3838
Participating Teams (4): Kentucky, South Carolina, Vanderbilt, East Tennessee State

NCAA East Regional May 19-21

Location.....Nashville, Tenn.
Course.....The Golf Club of Tennessee
Host.....Southeastern Conference
SID Phone.....205-458-3010
Participating Teams (27 teams, 6 Individuals)
Announced Monday, May 9, 6 p.m. CT

NCAA Championship June 1-4

Location.....Baltimore, Md.
Course.....Caves Valley Golf Course
Hosts....Caves Valley/Loyola College (Maryland)
Participating Teams: At each of three regionals, the low 10 teams and low two individuals advance to the NCAA Championship.



University of South Carolina

Head Coach Puggy Blackmon



Head Coach Puggy Blackmon, who was inducted to the Golf Coaches' Association of America Hall of Fame in 2005, enters his 10th season at the helm of the South Carolina men's golf team.

Throughout his nine-year stint at South Carolina, Blackmon has continued to build his already impressive resume. USC has advanced to the NCAA Regionals every year since Blackmon began his career at South Carolina. Of those nine regional berths, the Gamecocks competed in five NCAA finals.

In 2004, Blackmon's team captured three tournament titles, including an incredible 28-shot win at the Mercedes-Benz Collegiate Championship. USC also finished first at the Palmetto Collegiate and Hawaii-Turtle Bay. Erik Johansen (first team), Alex Hamilton (second team) and Martin Rominger (second team) earned All-SEC recognition. Rominger and Hamilton, along with Jake Thompson, were selected Cleveland Golf All-America Scholars, giving South Carolina more honorees than any other school in the country.

In 2003, Johansen earned several prestigious

awards. He was named Honorable Mention All-America, first-team All-SEC, as well as being named to the All-Region and All-Freshman squad.

The Gamecocks have been ranked for over seven years under the helm of Blackmon, including a No. 3 national ranking in 1999 and fourth in 2000. Elevating the team to such high success are the seven team titles and 10 individual titles under Blackmon's reign. Kyle Thompson earned 1999 NCAA East Regional Champion and 2001 West Regional title, while Erik Ecker took home top honors at the 1998 SEC Tournament.

USC boasts seven All-Americans and 13 All-SEC performers since 1996, including SEC Freshman of the Year, Brent Roof.

Blackmon's players have excelled academically as well. Former Gamecock Lars Cederqvist was named a 2000 Verizon Academic All-American as a senior after maintaining a 4.0 in mechanical engineering throughout his collegiate career. Kyle Thompson was a two-time member of the All-America Scholar Team. In the fall of 2004, Blackmon's players set a team record with an impressive 3.5 grade-point average.

Seven players have earned GCAA Academic All-America status while 22 players have been named to the SEC Academic Honor Roll.

"Athletics Director Dr. Mike McGee and the coaching staff have this program on the move," commented Blackmon. "It has always been my goal to win the national championship and I believe that can be accomplished at South Carolina. The facilities and support of the people are unbelievable. The University Club is an outstanding facility and is a terrific asset to the golf program. South Carolina always has been a tremendous golf state and the people of Carolina may be the most loyal in the country."

Success has followed Blackmon his entire career — whether it be at Georgia Tech or at South Carolina. In his first three seasons at South

The Blackmon File

Given Name: William Dempsey Blackmon III
Born: Dec. 9, 1950 in Beaufort, S.C.
High School: Ridgeland High School, 1969

College Education:
Bachelor of arts degree in business administration from Carson-Newman College, 1973;
Master of science degree in economics from Clemson, 1977

Coaching Career
1995-present, Head Coach, South Carolina
1983-95, Head Coach, Georgia Tech

Coaching Honors
Atlantic Coast Conference Coach of the Year, 1984-1985-1992-1993
Member of the Golf Coaches' Association of America Hall of Fame, Inducted 2005

Coaching Highlights

- 20-consecutive NCAA Tournaments (1985-2004)
- Five Top-10 NCAA finishes
- Five ACC titles (1985, 1991-94)
- 35 in-season tournament championships
- 24 golfers named to All-American teams
- 16 All-ACC performers
- 13 All-SEC performers

Personal
Wife: Gail
Children: Ashley, Jordan, Tate

Carolina, he led primarily young and inexperienced teams to postseason play.

In addition to serving as the head men's golf coach at South Carolina, Blackmon maintains a close relationship with several of his former players and current PGA Tour Champions. His close friendship with tour star, David Duval, is widely recognized. In addition to Duval, Blackmon also remains a confidant for 2000 PGA Tour Rookie of the Year, Michael Clark II.

Before coming to Carolina, Blackmon coached Georgia Tech to five Atlantic Coast Conference Championships, 11-consecutive NCAA Championship appearances and 34 team tournament titles. Blackmon was named head coach of the Gamecock program on June 5, 1995, and the highly-successful head coach made an immediate impact on the Gamecock program.

He took a team with one returning All-American and unproven youth to upper division finishes in many regular-season tournaments and a surprising sixth-place showing at the NCAA East Regional in his first year in 1996. Blackmon has a string of 20-straight NCAA post season appearances.

During his 12-year tenure at Georgia Tech, Blackmon built the Yellow Jacket program into



The Blackmon Family (L to R):

Puggy, wife Gail, daughter Ashley and son-in-law Jared Jones, sons Tate and Jordan.

2005 Gamecock Men's Golf



Head Coach Puggy Blackmon

one of the most successful and dominant in all of college golf. His teams' 11-straight trips to the NCAA Tournament were matched only by six other schools in the history of college golf. Blackmon's 1993 Tech squad finished runner-up at the NAAs and he led the Rambling Wreck to five top-seven national finishes. His Georgia Tech teams either won or finished second in the ACC Tournament nine times in his tenure.

A four-time ACC Coach of the Year (1984, 1985, 1992, 1993), three of Blackmon's former golfers finished second at the NCAA Championships and his players at South Carolina and Georgia Tech have won 31 individual tournament crowns. Blackmon has coached 30 All-Americans at Tech and Carolina and two national players of the year in the 1990s at Tech. Duval, a four-time All-American, was the 1993 National Player of the Year, while Stewart Cink, one of the brightest young stars in the professional ranks, was named the 1995 National Player of the Year.

Blackmon now has coached 29 All-SEC or All-ACC performers in his tenure, while five of those individuals — Bob McDonnell (1985), David Duval (1991, 1993), Mikko Rantanen (1994) and Eric Ecker (1998) — were conference medalists. The Yellow Jackets won the ACC team title in 1985, 1991, 1992, 1993 and 1994, while Carolina was runner up by one stroke at the SEC's in 1998 — USC's best finish ever.

His Georgia Tech teams had nearly a 100 percent graduation rate and more than 20 of his golfers earned ACC Academic Honor Roll accolades. Blackmon has also proven to be an effective fund raiser. He spearheaded the efforts which led to the endowment of his team's scholarships at Georgia Tech.

Born William Dempsey Blackmon III on Dec. 9, 1950 in Beaufort, S.C., he is a 1969 graduate of Ridgeland High School. Blackmon played collegiately at Carson-Newman College, where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration in 1973. He was chosen one of the Outstanding College Athletes of America in 1971 and 1973. After receiving his Master of Science degree in economics from Clemson in 1977, Blackmon worked for six years in the golf resort operations and development field in Florida.

Blackmon has proven to be a top recruiter at both the national and international levels. He has successfully recruited at least one American Junior Golf Association All-America player each of the past 13 years. Blackmon also excels as being a teaching coach, having been a PGA professional and junior golf activist since 1973. He was instrumental in developing the Jacksonville (Fla.) and Atlanta Junior Golf Associations. Throughout his career, he has been involved in junior golf on the local, national and international levels.

Blackmon and his wife, Gail, also a Ridgeland native, have three children: a daughter, Ashley, who is a third-year student at the Medical University of South Carolina and married Jared Jones in December 2004, and two sons, Jordan, a junior at USC, and Tate, a sophomore at Ben Lippen High School.



Blackmon maintains close relationships with former players and current PGA Tour champions. (l to r): David Duval, Stewart Cink, Coach Blackmon, Charlie Rymer and Michael Clark. PGA Tour players not included: Briny Baird, Tripp Isenbower, Jimmy Johnston and Kyle Thompson.

"Coach Blackmon was the sole reason that I chose USC. When I was being recruited I knew I wanted to play at the next level so I looked for the coach that had experience in getting players there. Coach Blackmon has as many players on tour as anyone and that can be accredited to his knowledge of the game and the resources he uses in his coaching. Coach Blackmon continues to be a good friend of mine and has helped me in my life both on and off the course."

- Kyle Thompson
PGA Golfer

"I'm the reason Puggy lost his hair. I know I was very difficult to deal with in college, but he stuck with me. My relationship with Puggy is about far more than just golf. It's about life, and the relationship doesn't end when you graduate. Other than making me workout and go to class, I love the man. I'd jump through a burning hoop for him and he'd do the same for me...and only one of us would have to worry about our singing hair."

- Charlie Rymer
ESPN Commentator/Celebrity

"Puggy has a belief in who he is and what he stands for, and a big belief in his family and faith. One of his strong points as a golf coach is that he can teach life's lessons very well, but does it in a manner in which you probably don't realize you're learning them."

- David Duval
PGA Golfer

"Puggy knows what it takes to play the game of golf at the top level and he knows how to get his players there. Puggy does a great job of recruiting and he was the primary factor on deciding which university I would attend."

- Michael Clark II
PGA Golfer

"Puggy finds players that are committed to playing their best. He's an incredible role model. He cares about his players. Once he is their coach, he is their coach for life. He will always give his time and energy for someone."

- Bob Rotella
noted sport psychologist



University of South Carolina

Assistant Coach/Support Staff



Michael Burcin

Assistant Coach

Michael Burcin enters his first season as the assistant coach for the South Carolina men's golf team after serving as a volunteer coach last season.

Burcin joined the Gamecock program in 2003-04 following four years of coaching experience as a golf professional at several public and private facilities in

Lancaster, Pa. Burcin competed on the section level and on various mini tours until an injury sidelined him for two years.

Originally from Salina, Kan., Burcin was a four-year varsity letterwinner at Lampeter-Strasburg High School in Lampeter, Pa.

Burcin is married to Michelle Murphy, a Program Director for Campus Wellness at USC, where she is also pursuing her PhD. in Public Health. The couple resides in Columbia.



Patricia McGinn

Assistant Athletics Trainer

Patricia McGinn is in her first year as an assistant athletic trainer at the University of South Carolina. McGinn supervises the sport of men's golf and serves as an adjunct faculty in the Athletic Training Curriculum. In addition to her work with men's golf, McGinn is the athletic trainer for women's basketball and supervises the athletic training coverage for the women's

golf and men's and women's tennis teams.

Prior to coming to USC, McGinn completed her doctorate in biomechanics at the University of Kentucky. Her dissertation evaluated the effects of a strength-training program on the landing mechanics of female basketball athletes. During her doctoral work, she served as a Customer Service Representative for Orthopedic Solutions/DonJoy and worked as a rehabilitation technician at Joyner Sports Medicine Institute in Lexington, Ky.

McGinn was the women's gymnastics athletic trainer at Auburn University while working on her master's degree. Prior to her earning her master's degree, she was the assistant athletic trainer at West Babylon Senior High School in Long Island, N.Y. The Long Island native graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor's degree in exercise and sports science/athletic training. She has been an athletic trainer in the Southeastern Conference since her student athletic training experiences at UF in 1995.

She also holds the Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist certification and a degree from the Suncoast School of Massage, Florida.



Dan Austin

Strength and Conditioning Coach

Dan Austin serves as strength and conditioning coach for the South Carolina men's golf team. Austin, who is in his second year at USC, also works with the Gamecock football team.

Prior to joining the South Carolina staff, Austin held the position of head strength coach at Austin Peay, Tennessee State, UNLV, Mississippi State and Oklahoma State University. While at OSU, he was voted the Big 12 Conference's Strength and Conditioning Coach of the Year in 2000.

A native of Greenville, S.C., Austin earned his bachelor's degree in health and physical education in from Newberry College where he played both football and soccer. Austin obtained a master's degree in health, physical education and education administration from Austin Peay.

Austin is certified by United States American WeightLifting, the International Sports Sciences Association, and the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association. He also holds Level II Specialist in Sports Conditioning certification and the Master Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association, which is the highest certification a strength coach can achieve.

Austin is also a nine-time world power lifting champion and 14-time national power lifting champion.

He has two daughters, Whitney and Briana.



Gene Sprayberry

Club Fitting Technician

Gene Sprayberry enters his seventh year as the South Carolina club fitting technician. Prior to working for the Gamecocks, Sprayberry was the PGA head golf professional from 1978-89. While working for the PGA, Sprayberry was also a GCS Class A Golf Course Superintendent.

During his career as a club technician, Sprayberry has earned several awards, including National Clubmaker of the Year in 2001 and 1996.

Sprayberry, and his wife Boots, resides in Columbia, S.C. The Sprayberrys have two children, Catherine and Joseph.

2005 Gamecock Men's Golf



Athletics Administration



Dr. Mike McGee

Athletics Director

Under the capable and strong leadership of Mike McGee, the University of South Carolina athletics department has steadily continued its climb toward the elite in collegiate athletics. During his tenure at Carolina, McGee has helped put together a program that is committed to excellence, with the goals of winning championships, graduating its student-athletes and having a positive impact in the community.

The Gamecock program has emerged as one of the most competitive across the board in the nation, with strong finishes in the NACDA Director's Cup all-sports rankings and consistent top 20 status with the majority of its athletic teams. Two of the past three years has seen Carolina post top 20 finishes in the Director's Cup, with a school-best 11th-place showing in 2002 and a final ranking of #18 in 2003. Among the highlights over the past three years include:

- Three straight appearances in the College World Series by the Gamecock baseball team, with finishes of 2nd, 6th, and 3rd in the nation to its credit
- The women's track team won the school's first-ever national team championship, claiming the 2002 NCAA Outdoor crown
- A record 17 teams competed in post-season competition in 2001-02, with 16 teams qualifying in 2002-03 and 15 teams advancing in 2003-04
- USC has won four SEC championships—baseball (2), women's golf, women's outdoor track
- Opened its new 18,000-seat Colonial Center in grand style, with the facility serving as home to Gamecock basketball and class A entertainment never before seen in the Midlands area
- The football team captured the 2002 Outback Bowl championship and finished 13th in the final national rankings. The Gamecocks also put together consecutive top 10 ranked recruiting classes—a first in the program's history
- The men's basketball team was one of the surprise teams in the SEC this past season and won 23 games while advancing to the NCAA Tournament
- The women's basketball team advanced to the NCAA Elite Eight in 2002 and posted back-to-back top 20 national finishes
- Continued the upward trend in academic performance, with the department establishing an all-time best semester grade point average of 2.936 for the spring semester, 2004
- Seen its fund-raising have record-breaking years, with more than \$11.9 million raised through the Gamecock Club this past year, the most in the program's history
- Had the athletics department successfully certified by the NCAA

McGee assumed his duties with South Carolina on Jan. 1, 1993, having brought with him a wealth of administrative experience, national respect among his colleagues and peers and strong leadership skills. Since arriving at Carolina, McGee has made

a multitude of positive moves in enhancing the total Gamecock program. Under his direction, the USC program has successfully moved from the Metro Conference (now Conference USA) to the nation's most competitive all-sports conference—the SEC.

McGee has taken steps to improve the department's sports programs by upgrading facilities and making staff additions across the board. Under his watch, the department continues to be a leader in addressing the gender equity issue in a proactive manner, as two women's sports have been added since his arrival. In addition, USC is a leader for hiring female head coaches, as the Gamecocks feature six female head coaches, tops in the SEC.

McGee has been a leader in facilities improvements and additions since coming to South Carolina. With the completion of the new arena, he has overseen more than \$110 million in facilities improvements.

The new \$65 million Colonial Center, which opened in November, 2002, has drawn rave reviews, and is recognized as one of the premier sports and entertainment facilities in the Southeast. Recently completed is a \$3 million remodeling of the south end zone at Williams-Brice Stadium, including a new weight room, meeting and recruiting rooms.

Under his leadership, fan support at Carolina has never been better. Over the last six-year aggregate period, USC's home football attendance ranks among the Top 10 in the country, with a per game average of better than 80,000. The overall athletics budget has also increased significantly during McGee's tenure. The athletics department generates more than \$52 million in annual revenues, reflecting a \$34 million increase since McGee came to Carolina.

The academic progress of the athletics department has continued its steady climb under McGee's watch. USC's graduation rate for its student-athletes consistently has ranked as high as second in the SEC, while the football graduation rate in 2003, as calculated by the American Football Coaches Association, is at an all-time high of 76 percent.

McGee has served on numerous NCAA and conference committees. During the last two years of his tenure at Southern California, he represented the Pac-10 Conference on the NCAA Council and served on the Special NCAA Committee to Review Financial Conditions in Intercollegiate Athletics. He currently serves on the NCAA Management Council and is a member of the Division I Incentives and Disincentives Working Group. He also served on the SEC Task Force Committee on Compliance and Enforcement. McGee was previously a member of the NCAA Division I Working Group to Study Basketball Issues. For four years he served as chair of the NCAA Recruiting Sub-Committee. Together with the athletic departments and business schools of the University of North Carolina and University of Notre Dame, he founded the Sports Management Institute to train future college and professional sports administrators. SMI's partner schools now include South Carolina, Southern Cal, North Carolina, Texas and Michigan.

In 2002, McGee received the Order of the Palmetto by the Governor, which is the highest honor a civilian can receive in the State of South Carolina.

McGee and his wife, Ginger, have four children and 13 grandchildren. Kathy, her husband, Tom, and their children, Lauren, Kyle and Luke; Michael Jr., his wife, Amy, and their children, Alex, Michael III and Samantha; Matthew, his wife, Chantal, and

their daughters, Maddison, Abby Grace, Rebekah and Eden; and Jerry, his wife, Alana, and their sons, Graham, Emmett, and Charlie. Four members of the McGee family—Michael Jr., Matthew, Chantal and Tom—are current or former U.S. Air Force pilots.



Val Sheley

Senior Associate Athletics Director & Senior Women's Administrator

Val Sheley, who has experience as an athletics director and in several other administrative areas, including compliance, academics, and student-athlete development, is in her first year as Senior Associate Athletics Director/Senior Women's Administrator at the University of South Carolina. Sheley fills the position previously held by Laurie Massa, who was at USC for nine years before taking the Athletics Director's post at John Carroll University in May, 2004.

Sheley returns to USC for the second time during her college athletics career, having served as an Associate Athletics Director/NCAA Compliance Officer at the school from 1995-2000. She left Carolina to become Athletics Director at Presbyterian College, where she oversaw that school's athletics program for three years. In 2003, Sheley served as the interim Associate Athletics Director for Academic Support and Career Development at the University of Maryland.

Sheley began her work in athletics administration in 1988, where she served as the Assistant AD/Senior Women's Administrator at UNC Asheville. From there she went to the NCAA Office in Overland Park, Kan., working as a legislative assistant for the national organization.

Sheley has a bachelor's degree from Murray State University, where she excelled as a track athlete. She has a master's degree from the University of Houston.

Sheley was a 1984 Olympic qualifier for Great Britain's track and field team. Her husband, Mike, is a former track All-American and NCAA relay champion at South Carolina.

Sheley is also a graduate of the Sports Management Institute.



University of South Carolina

University Administration



Andrew A. Sorensen

University President

As one of the nation's oldest state-supported institutions of higher education, the University of South Carolina is in its third century of service to the people and state of South Carolina.

The 2001 bicentennial celebration of the university's charter in 1801 marked a new era in the life of the university. Today, USC President Dr. Andrew A. Sorensen has set a goal of having USC become one of the nation's top 50 public universities.

Scholarships and Research Productivity

USC's freshman class continues to grow in academic excellence. In 2003 - 2004, USC captured a record number of awards in national competitions. USC students were awarded more than 50 scholarships, fellowships and honorable mentions in the prestigious Fulbright, Truman, Goldwater, National Science Foundation, National Security Education Program, Rhodes and Rotary International Scholarship programs. Since 1994, when the USC Office of Fellowships and Scholar Programs was established, USC students have won approximately 250 national awards totaling more than \$6.2 million for advanced academic study.

The University also is attracting top research grants. A \$2.5 million grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to researchers in USC's College of Science and Mathematics, added to a \$1 million grant received earlier from NASA, will enable scientists to use satellite data to look for environmental trouble spots in the United States. Together, these grants will allow USC researchers to search for potential problem areas worldwide where climate change most likely will affect coastal communities. Their work will involve cutting-edge remote sensing, modeling and physiological approaches.

Selected Program Rankings

- USC's programs for first-year students were cited in the 2004 "America's Best Colleges Guide," as being a national model. The guide, published by U.S. News & World Report, listed USC and 32 other colleges under the heading, "First-Year Experiences," and under the broad category, "Programs to Look For."
- USC's international business degree for undergraduates is ranked No. 1 in U.S. News & World Report, 2004 Best Colleges Guide. The graduate

international business program is ranked No. 2 in the country, also in U.S. News & World Report, Best Graduate Schools issue, 2004.

- USC libraries rank in the top 50 for overall size of collections among more than 3,000 college and university libraries in the United States and Canada, according to the Association of Research Libraries' report.

Dr. Andrew A. Sorensen

Andrew A. Sorensen came to USC after serving as president of the University of Alabama (1996-2002) and provost and vice president for academic affairs at the University of Florida (1990-1996).

Dr. Sorensen also has been executive director of the AIDS Institute at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions and director of the School of Public Health at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He was a faculty member at Lincoln University, the University of Rochester, and Cornell University.

He also has been a visiting faculty member at the Harvard University School of Medicine and at the University of Cambridge School of Medicine.

Author or editor of seven books and more than 100 articles, he is professor of epidemiology and biostatistics in USC's Arnold School of Public Health.

Dr. Sorensen has focused his work on health policy, health services research, and epidemiology. He holds a bachelor's degree in ethics and master's and doctoral degrees in medical sociology from Yale University. He also earned a B.A. in history from the University of Illinois and a master of public health degree from the University of Michigan.

Currently, he is vice president to the Executive Committee of the Southeastern Conference and is the immediate-past president of the Southern University Conference, past chair of the Southern Universities Research Association Council of Presidents, and a trustee of the Universities Research Association. He was a member of the Public Health Task Force on AIDS for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Education Advisory Committee for President Bush's Transition Team during 2000-2001. He was appointed in 2001 to U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy Thompson's Advisory Council on Public Health Preparedness.

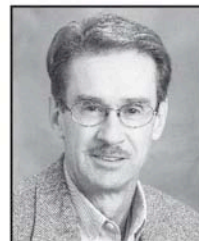
Donna Sorensen

Donna Ingemie Sorensen holds a baccalaureate degree in chemistry from Wheaton College and master's degrees in nutrition from Cornell University and in chemistry from Wesleyan University. She was recently appointed by S.C. Department of Education Superintendent Inez Tenenbaum to serve on the S.C. Department of Education Task Force on

Nutrition and Health in Our Youth, a new effort that will examine the problem of childhood obesity. She also is a board member of the Girl Scout Council of the Congaree Area and a board member of the S.C. Arts Foundation. She currently serves as vice chair of the national Board of Directors for the American Social Health Association.

Mrs. Sorensen has focused her volunteer efforts in working with children and young adults, AIDS outreach, Easter Seals, Success by Six, and the Girl Scouts.

The Sorensens have two sons, Aaron and Ben, and a grandson, Art.



Russ Pate

NCAA Faculty Representative

In 2002, the University of South Carolina named Dr. Russ Pate as its faculty athletics representative to the Southeastern Conference and the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

Pate, a professor and former chairman of the department of exercise science at the Arnold School of Public Health, is the school's associate dean for research. Internationally recognized for his research on the link between physical activity and health, Pate is a former president of the American College of Sports Medicine.

His duties include advising USC President Andrew Sorensen on matters related to the athletics program and working with Dr. Sorensen to determine the university's position on NCAA legislation. Pate also will review the eligibility, admission and progress of student-athletes. He also assists in evaluating compliance with NCAA regulations, attends SEC and NCAA meetings, serves as the university's voting delegate at the NCAA's annual meetings and participates in the organization's certification program.

Pate's research has been supported by the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Heart Association and the U.S. Olympic Committee.