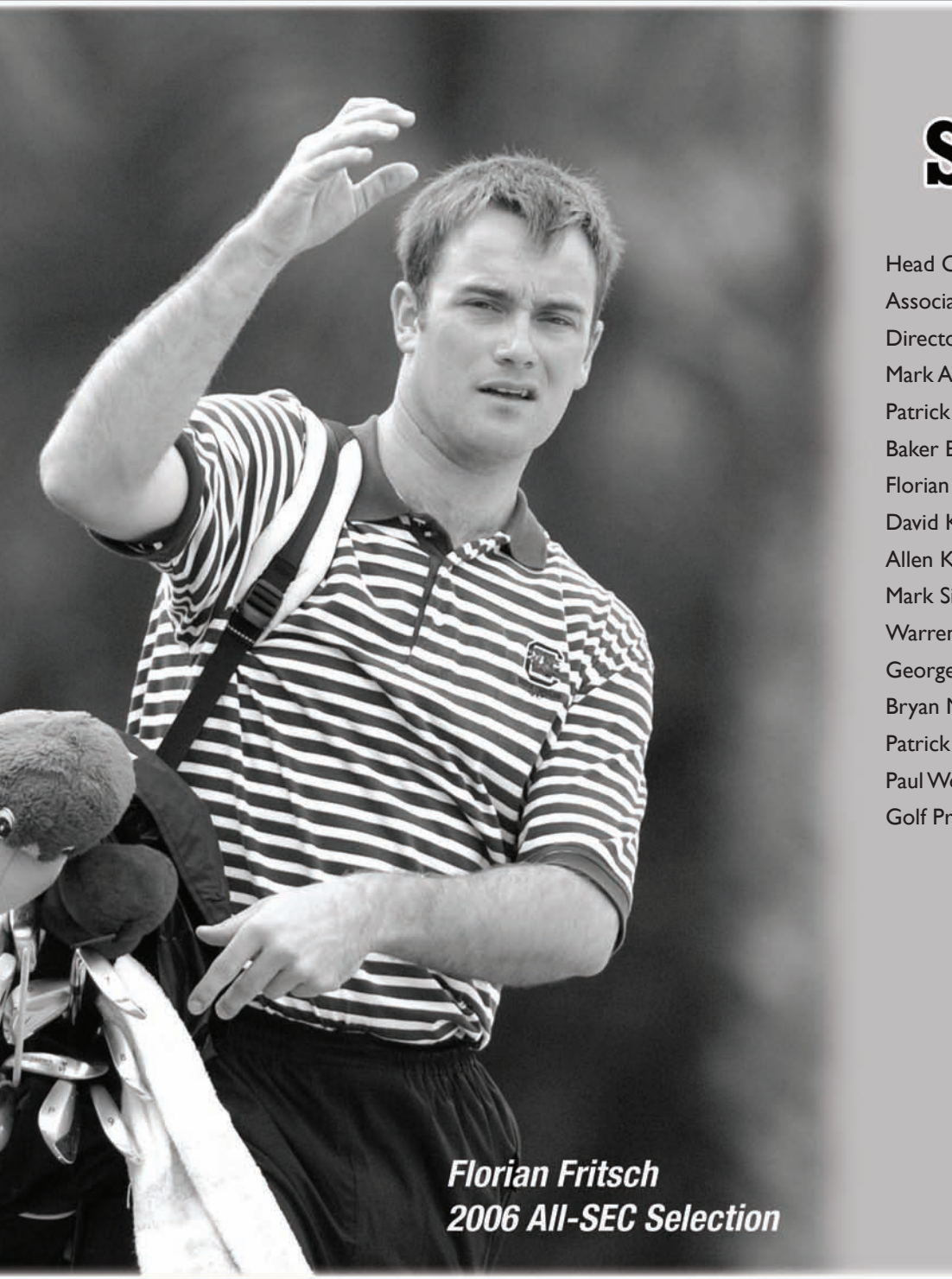


# Meet the Gamecocks

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*Florian Fritsch  
2006 All-SEC Selection*

**CAROLINA GOLF**





# PUGGY BLACKMON

**Head Coach ▶ 12th Season at South Carolina ▶ 24th Season Overall**

Puggy Blackmon, who was inducted to the Golf Coaches' Association of America Hall of Fame in 2005, is in his 12th season at the helm of the South Carolina men's golf program.

Throughout his 11-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, and of those 11 regional berths, the Gamecocks have competed in seven NCAA finals.

South Carolina golf has won eight team tournament titles in Blackmon's tenure and captured 11 individual titles, including five from All-American Kyle Thompson under Blackmon's guidance. Five golfers have earned nine All-America honors as well.

On Blackmon's watch, 11 Gamecock golfers have collected 17 All-SEC first or second team honors. Blackmon has also coached two SEC Freshmen of the Year (Mark Anderson, 2005 and Eric Ecker, 1998) and an SEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year (West Streib, 2005).

The Gamecocks are coming off another strong season in 2005-06 which included a trip to the NCAA Championship and another team title. Carolina won the Bank of Tennessee Intercollegiate behind top-five performances from freshman Florian Fritsch (second) and senior Eirik Johansen (fourth). Both Johansen and Fritsch were named to the all-SEC team and Johansen capped his career with a second honorable mention All-America nod.

In 2005, under Blackmon's guidance, Gamecock freshman Mark Anderson placed first at both the Southern Highlands Collegiate Championship and the Schenkel E-Z-Go Invitational and went on to earn Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Year honors. Anderson was also named to the All-SEC first team, the Golf Coaches' Association of America All-Freshman team and a third-team All-American. Senior West Streib was also honored as the SEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year for men's golf in 2005.

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. Eirik Johansen (first team), Alex Hamilton (second team) and Martin Rominger (second team) earned



**Puggy Blackmon was inducted to the Golf Coaches' Association of America Hall of Fame in 2005.**

## 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

- ▶ ACC Coach of the Year, 1984-1985-1992-1993
- ▶ GCAA Hall of Fame, Inducted 2005

### Coaching Highlights

- ▶ 24-straight trips to NCAA postseason (1985-2006)
- ▶ Five Top-10 NCAA finishes
- ▶ Five ACC titles (1985, 1991-94)
- ▶ 38 in-season tournament championships
- ▶ 29 All-America honors
- ▶ 16 All-ACC performers
- ▶ 17 All-SEC honors

### Personal

Wife: Gail  
 Children: Ashley, Jordan, Tate



All-SEC recognition. Rominger and Hamilton, along with Jake Thompson, were selected Cleveland Golf All-America Scholars. 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 spent a considerable amount of time in the national polls, including a No. 3 national ranking in 1999 and fourth in 2000.

Blackmon's players have excelled academically as well. The men's golf team has posted the highest team grade point average of any of the school's men's programs for three consecutive semesters in the spring of 2005, fall of 2005 and spring of 2006. Former Gamecock Lars Cederqvist was named a 2000 Academic All-American as a senior after maintaining a 4.0 in mechanical engineering throughout his collegiate career. Seven different golfers have earned nine GCAA All-America Scholar honors while 35 players have been named to the SEC Academic Honor Roll.

"It has always been my goal to win the national championship and I believe that can be accomplished at South Carolina," Blackmon said upon his hiring. "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."

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.

During his 12-year tenure at Georgia Tech, Blackmon built the Yellow Jacket program into 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 college golf. Blackmon's 1993 Tech squad finished runner-up at the NCAAs and he led the Rambling Wreck to five top-seven national finishes. His Georgia Tech teams either won or finished second in the ACC Championship 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 30 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. In addition, Blackmon has coached his teams at 42 tournament titles and maintains a streak of 22-straight postseason appearances (through 2006) at Carolina and Georgia Tech.

Blackmon has also proven to be an effective fund raiser. At Carolina, Blackmon has introduced creative ways to raise money for the Gamecock golf programs, including the sales of Cock N' Fire cabernet. The wine includes an endorsement and label that pictures South Carolina head football coach Steve Spurrier. It is distributed by the Ben Arnold Beverage throughout the state of South Carolina. Proceeds have totaled more than \$165,000 in 2005 and 2006. Blackmon also 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, and two sons, Jordan and Tate. Ashley, who is married to Jared Jones, is a graduate of the Medical University of South Carolina. Jordan is a senior at USC, and Tate, is junior at Blythewood 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.

## WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT BLACKMON

“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  
Professional 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 singeing hair.”

**- Charlie Rymer  
ESPN Commentator**

“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**



# BILL McDONALD

**Associate Head Coach ▶ First Season at South Carolina**

A highly successful collegiate golfer, former tour professional and accomplished instructor, Bill McDonald joined the University of South Carolina men's golf staff as associate head coach on Sept. 1, 2006.

"Having known Bill since his junior golf days and following his development over the years, I can't imagine having anyone more qualified to assist us in reaching our ultimate goals at USC," Blackmon said. "I feel that he will evolve into one of the best coaches in the country."

"I want to thank Eric Hyman and Coach Puggy Blackmon for giving me such a wonderful opportunity to join the staff of the Gamecock Golf program," McDonald said. "I am honored to be a part of such a great University and I look forward to serving the most loyal and passionate fans in the country."

McDonald returns to Columbia for a second time after serving as the Director of Instruction at the University Club from 1996-1998. Most recently, he has worked as the Director of Instruction at Cartersville Country Club (2006) and has been involved with Atlanta-based company Accelerized Golf as a founding partner and instructor from 2003-2006. He has previously served as Director of Instruction at City Club Golf Academy in Atlanta (2000-2003).

McDonald played collegiately for Blackmon at Georgia Tech (1985-88) where he was the runner-up at the 1988 NCAA Championship and a two-time All-American (1985 and 1988). He earned his bachelor of science degree in industrial management from Tech in 1989 and after competing professionally for the next five years in South Africa, Canada and several PGA Tour and Nationwide Tour events, McDonald returned to his alma mater to serve as an assistant coach to Blackmon in 1994-95.

In 2005, McDonald was a featured instructor on The Golf Channel's "Your Game Night." He has competed in three PGA Professional National Championships (2003, 2004, 2006) and won the Big Oak Putter Classic in 2006. In addition, McDonald has been a top-10 player in the Georgia PGA Section for the last five years.

McDonald is a member of the Georgia Tech Sports Hall of Fame and the Professional Golfers' Association of America (since 2002). He and his wife, Tanya, are the parents of two boys, Trace (4), and Tyler (2).



# MICHAEL BURCIN

**Director of Golf Operations ▶ Fourth Season at South Carolina**

Michael Burcin is in his third season as a full-time member of the South Carolina men's golf staff. Burcin was as an assistant coach for the last two seasons (2004-2006) and served as a volunteer assistant during the spring of 2004. With the addition of Bill McDonald to the staff, Burcin takes over as the Director of Golf Operations.

Upon joining the Carolina staff, Burcin was put in charge of recruiting, creating a club for former Gamecock Lettermen and all day-to-day activities. The group of lettermen, known as The Players Club, has over sixty members and is growing. While Burcin has been the liaison for the academic staff, the Gamecocks have achieved at least a 3.3 grade point average in each semester, and combined for a new record this past fall of 3.543. In addition to coaching, Burcin's other duties include arranging all travel, scheduling and serving as the liaison to the strength and conditioning and compliance offices.

Before coming to South Carolina, Burcin spent seven years in the golf business as a golf professional in Lancaster, Pa. Burcin's last stop in Pennsylvania was developing an indoor teaching program at a retail golf store in Lancaster. While in Lancaster, Burcin kept an active playing schedule of section and chapter PGA events.

Originally from Salina, Kan, Burcin graduated from Lampeter-Strasburg High School in Lampeter, Pa., where he was a 10-time letterman in three sports.

A member of the Golf Coaches Association of America, Burcin and his wife, Dr. Michelle Burcin, who was a standout swimmer at the University of Cincinnati, reside in Columbia.



## TEEING OFF WITH MARK ANDERSON

Major: Business

Teammate Who Will Be Most Successful 10 Years From Now: Mark Silvers

Fiercest Competitor: Florian Fritsch

Sweetest Swing: Patrick Cuning (I love lefties!)

Best Off The Tee: Allen Koon

Best Short Game: Allen Koon

What Is The Best Part Of Your Golf Game: Managing hitting the ball everywhere

Your Favorite Columbia Area Restaurant: Devine Foods

Best Food That You Make: Frogmore Stew

Your Favorite Thing About Being At South Carolina: Beautiful women

What Drives You: I don't want to find a real job after college.

Your most memorable sports moment: Winning my first collegiate tournament

My Main Goal for the Season is: to be an All-American again

Advice You'd Give To Young People: Be wary of the people who like you for your talent and success. Trust those that encourage you through success and failure. These people are your true friends.

The TV Show You Never Miss if You Can Help it: House

If You Could Pick Three Celebrities To Play A Round Of Golf With, Who Would You Choose And What Would You Talk About? Bill Murray: I'd re-enact Caddyshack the entire time with him; Darius Rucker: Anything involving the Gamecocks; Denzel Washington: all his great movies

# MARK ANDERSON

Junior >> Beaufort, S.C. (Beaufort Academy)

### COACH'S QUOTE:

"Mark is a proven winner with two impressive victories in his freshman year. He's a fiery competitor who has great hands and instincts. His play will be a key to the Gamecocks' success."

### 2005-2006

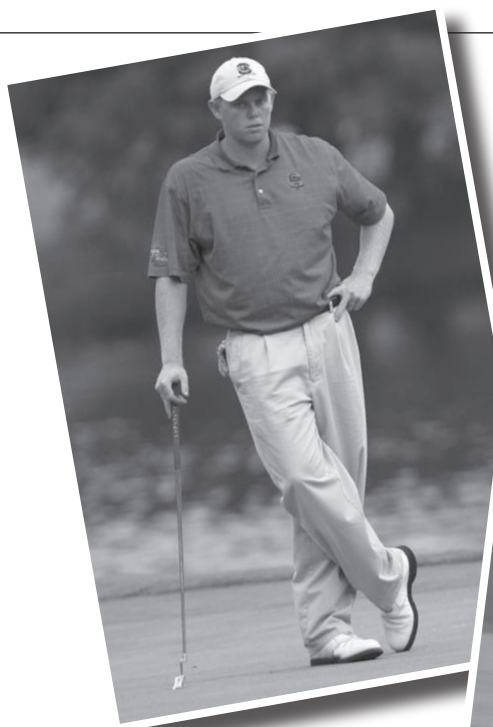
Finished the season with a 75.13 stroke average ... One of two Gamecocks to compete in every varsity event ... Shot a low round of 70 in the second round of the Linger Longer Invitational ... Produced three top-30 finishes ... Placed in a tie for 13th at the Linger Longer Invitational ... Best performance of the spring came at the Mercedes-Benz Collegiate Championship as he placed 10th ... Also produced a top-25 showing at the Hootie at Bulls Bay, placing in a tie for 22nd ... Placed in a tie for 36th at the NCAA East Regional ... Carded a 227 in three rounds at the NCAA Championship to tie for 122nd ... Participated in all four fall events with his best finish coming at the Bank of Tennessee Intercollegiate ... Tied for 12th as Carolina brought home the team title ... Made the SEC Academic Honor Roll.

### 2004-2005

Earned third-team All-America honors from the Golf Coaches' Association of America (GCAA) ... One of five rookies from around the country to make the GCAA All-Freshman team ... Collected PING All-Southeast Region honors ... Named the 2005 SEC Freshman of the Year ... Also a member of the All-SEC first team ... Finished with a 73.22 stroke average, the best on the team ... One of five Gamecocks to play in the NCAA West Regional ... In only his fourth collegiate tournament, tied for first place at the Southern Highlands Collegiate Championship (March 11-13) before falling in a one-hole playoff ... One week later, he won his first outright title at the Schenkel EZ-Go Invitational in Statesboro, Ga. (March 18-20) ... Tied for fifth at the Sun Trust Gator Invitational (Feb. 4-6) ... Finished in a tie for 11th at the Mercedes Benz Collegiate Championship (Feb. 20-22) ... Led the Gamecocks with four top-10 and five top-20 finishes ... Tied for the team's lowest round score with a 66 in the first round of the Southern Highlands Collegiate Championship ... In his first SEC Championship, he tied for 31st place with teammate Eirik Johansen ... Named to the SEC Freshman Academic Honor Roll.

### PRIOR TO SOUTH CAROLINA

A six-year letterman at Beaufort Academy in Beaufort, S.C. ... Earned All-Conference and All-State honors his freshman through senior years ... Captured the SCISA Individual State Championship in both 2003 and 2004 ... Also won the 2003 South Carolina Junior Amateur title ... Helped Beaufort Academy to SCISA Region Championships in 2002 and 2003 and to SCISA State Championships in 1999, 2000 and 2003 ... Finished in the top five at the 2003 AJGA Hargray Classic and the 2003 AJGA HP Boys Championship ... Ranked fourth in the South Carolina junior rankings.



**2005-2006 Results**

| Tournament                 | Rounds       | Finish  |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------|
| TOPY Cup                   | 80-81-77=238 | T-52nd  |
| Bank of Tenn. Intercoll.   | 72-73-73=218 | T-12th  |
| Isleworth Collegiate       | 78-75-77=230 | T-45th  |
| Carpet Capital Collegiate  | 79-81-78=238 | T-86th  |
| Mercedes-Benz Collegiate   | 79-74-72=225 | 10th    |
| The Gator Invitational     | 73-81-77=231 | T-60th  |
| Schenkel E-Z-Go Invite     | 74-73-76=223 | T-40th  |
| Hootie at Bulls Bay        | 71-72-75=218 | T-22nd  |
| ASU Thunderbird Invite     | 71-79-75=225 | T-65th  |
| SEC Championship           | 73-72-72=217 | T-27th  |
| Linger Longer Invitational | 76-70-72=218 | T-13th  |
| NCAA East Regional         | 74-76-72=222 | T-36th  |
| NCAA Championship          | 77-74-76=227 | T-122nd |

Season Stroke Average: 75.13

**2004-2005 Results**

| Tournament                  | Rounds       | Finish |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Koch Intercollegiate        | 75-76-75=226 | T-40th |
| SunTrust Gator Invitational | 69-72-71=212 | T-5th  |
| Mercedes-Benz Collegiate    | 72-74-74=220 | T-11th |
| So. Highlands Collegiate    | 66-72-71=209 | T-1st  |
| Schenkel EZ-Go Invite       | 72-71-72=215 | 1st    |
| Hootie at Bulls Bay         | 73-74-78=225 | T-40th |
| Augusta State Invite        | 75-79-72=226 | T-10th |
| SEC Championship            | 73-78-76=227 | T-31st |
| NCAA West Regional          | 72-72-73=217 | T-39th |

Season Stroke Average: 73.22

**Career**

Top-10 Finishes: 5

Top-20 Finishes: 8

Low Round: 66



**Mark  
ANDERSON**



# PATRICK CUNNING

Redshirt Sophomore >> Aiken, S.C. (South Aiken)

## TEEING OFF WITH PATRICK CUNNING

Major: Business

Teammate Who Will Be Most Successful 10 Years From Now: Bryan Miller

Fiercest Competitor: Mark Anderson

Sweetest Swing: Bryan Miller

Best Off The Tee: Baker Elmore

Best Short Game: George Bryan

What Is The Best Part Of Your Golf Game: Iron game

Your Favorite Columbia Area Restaurant: Delaney's

Best Food That You Make: Spaghetti

Your Favorite Thing About Being At South Carolina: I love being a Gamecock; it's something I have wanted to be since I was little and it also helps that Steve Spurrier is here too.

What Drives You: Wanting to be as good as I can be

Your most memorable sports moment: Winning the 4A State High School Championship individually and as a team

My main goal for the season is: To be an All-American

Advice You'd Give To Young People: Enjoy it while it lasts

The TV show you never miss if you can help it: House

### COACH'S QUOTE:

"Patrick has an incredible work ethic and a great desire to succeed. He is always prepared and provides the glue for the team's chemistry."

### 2005-2006

Posted a 74.71 stroke average, the third-best on the team ... Competed in seven varsity events, including the SEC Championship ... Tied for 26th at the Hootie at Bulls Bay, his best showing of the year ... Also carded his lowest round of the season at Bulls Bay, firing a 67 on the second day of the tournament ... During the fall, helped Carolina to the team title at the Bank of Tennessee Intercollegiate ... Member of the SEC Academic Honor Roll.

### 2004-2005

Redshirted as a freshman at South Carolina ... Named to the SEC Freshmen Academic Honor Roll.

### PRIOR TO SOUTH CAROLINA

Lettered four years in golf at South Aiken High School in Aiken, S.C. ... Earned Medalist honors at the 2004 State Championship ... Helped lead South Aiken to 4A State Championships in 2000 and 2004 ... Named both All-Region and All-State in 2003 and 2004 ... Recipient of the Life Scholarship ... Posted a 74.0 stroke average as a senior in 2004 and a 75.0 average as a junior in 2003.





**2005-2006 Results**

| Tournament             | Rounds       | Finish |
|------------------------|--------------|--------|
| TOPY Cup               | 73-79-76=228 | T-32nd |
| Bank of Tennessee      | 74-75-76=225 | T-43rd |
| Schenkel E-Z Go        | 76-71-78=225 | T-51st |
| Hootie at Bulls Bay    | 76-67-76=219 | T-26th |
| ASU Thunderbird Invite | 80-72-71=223 | T-61st |

Season Stroke Average: 74.71

**2004-2005 Results**

Redshirted

**Career**

Top-10 Finishes: 0

Top-20 Finishes: 0

Low Round: 67

(Only varsity events counted)



**Patrick**  
**CUNNING**



# BAKER ELMORE

Sophomore >> Cheraw, S.C. (Cheraw)

## TEERING OFF WITH BAKER ELMORE

**Major:** Political Science

**Fiercest Competitor:** George Bryan IV

**Sweetest Swing:** Allen Koon

**Best Off The Tee:** Paul Woodbury

**Best Short Game:** Patrick Rada

**What Is The Best Part Of Your Golf Game:**  
I never give up

**Your Favorite Columbia Area Restaurant:**  
The Palmetto Pig

**Best Food That You Make:** Macaroni and Cheese

**Your Favorite Thing About Being At South Carolina:** Nice People

**What Drives You:** The desire not to lose

**Your most memorable sports moment:**  
Losing in the 2006 South Carolina Amateur match play finals

**My main goal for the season is:** To go into the back nine of a tournament with a chance to win

**Advice You'd Give To Young People:** Go to school and get an education

**The TV Show You Never Miss If You Can Help It:** Sports Center

**If You Could Pick Three Celebrities To Play A Round Of Golf With, Who Would You Choose And What Would You Talk About:**  
John Kennedy, Martin Luther King and Princess Diana

### COACH'S QUOTE:

"Baker is a gritty competitor and accurate ballstriker. With maturity, he could play a major role because he's a gamer."

### 2005-2006

Finished with a 76.50 stroke average after playing in two varsity events ... Placed in a tie for 43rd as the Gamecocks won the team title at the Bank of Tennessee Intercollegiate ... Led all USC golfers in the Coker College Collegiate (Garnet Team) with rounds of 69 and 72 and a second-place individual finish ... Tied for 12th at the Raines Development Intercollegiate (Garnet Team) ... Also competed in the Carpet Capital Collegiate and tied for 79th. ... Made the SEC Freshmen Academic Honor Roll.

### PRIOR TO SOUTH CAROLINA

Captured the AA State Individual Title as a senior in 2005 ... Earned AA All-State honors six consecutive years ... Won the 2004 Southern Cross Championship ... Took fourth-place in the 2004 AA State High School Championship ... Finished runner-up in the 2004 South Carolina Junior Golf Association Players Championship, the 2004 SCJGA Fall Challenge and the 2004 National PGA Qualifier ... Was a member of the National Honor Society ... Also a Palmetto Fellows Scholar.



**2005-2006 Results**

| <b>Tournament</b>          | <b>Rounds</b> | <b>Finish</b> |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Raines Development Inter.* | 74-69-72=215  | T-12th        |
| Bank of Tennessee          | 79-72-74=225  | T-43rd        |
| Coker College Collegiate*  | 69-71=140 2nd | T-2nd         |
| Carpet Capital Collegiate  | 84-75-75=234  | T-79th        |

Season Stroke Average: 75.60

\* indicates Garnet Team event

**Career**

Top-10 Finishes: 0

Top-20 Finishes: 0

Low Round: 72

(Only varsity events counted)



**Baker**  
**ELMORE**



## TEERING OFF WITH FLORIAN FRITSCHE

**Major:** Sports & Entertainment Management

**Teammate Who Will Be Most Successful 10 Years From Now:** George Bryan IV

**Fiercest Competitor:** George Bryan IV

**Sweetest Swing:** Mark Anderson

**Best Off The Tee:** Allen Koon

**What Is The Best Part Of Your Golf Game:**  
I like to let others decide that, because they usually tell me stuff that I never thought about.

**Your Favorite Columbia Area Restaurant:**  
Don't really have one, since they are all chain restaurants.

**Best Food That You Make:** Rigatoni Pomodoro with chicken and peas.

**Your Favorite Thing About Being At South Carolina:** Patrick Cunning

**What Drives You:** Defeats, losses and hardships

**Your most memorable sports moment:** I have several nice ones. I would say my first hole in one was big...I dunked that sucker!!!

**My main goal for the season is:** To be a first-team All-American

**Advice You'd Give To Young People:** Make goals. I underestimated the importance of goals - that was a big mistake.

**If You Could Pick Three Celebrities To Play A Round Of Golf With, Who Would You Choose And What Would You Talk About:**

1. Fritz Walter and talk about the German victory over Hungary at the 1954 Soccer World Cup (Also known as "The Wonder of Bern").
2. Konrad Adenauer and talk about the talks with Chrustschow, which resulted in the liberation of the German POW from Russia after the Second World War.
3. Play with Bernhard Langer and discuss religious things like "The DaVinci Code."

# FLORIAN FRITSCHE

Sophomore >> Munich, Germany (Johann-Phillip-Brunner)

### COACH'S QUOTE:

"Florian has incredible potential. He is an experienced and successful amateur in Europe. Florian is a long hitter and proven shotmaker. With maturity, he has the ability to be among the nation's best."

### 2005-2006

Named to the all-SEC second team ... Sported a 73.25 stroke average, second best on the team ... Led Carolina with a top-25 finish at the NCAA Championship ... Placed in a tie for 36th at the NCAA East Regional... Led the Gamecocks with a top-15 finish at the SEC Championship ... Played in 12 of 13 events and posted three top-10 finishes ... Led South Carolina in six events ... Opened the spring slate by placing in a tie for sixth at the Mercedes-Benz Collegiate Championship ... Placed in a tie for ninth (along with teammate Eirik Johansen) at the Hootie at Bulls Bay ... Top Gamecock performer in the Bank of Tennessee Intercollegiate, finishing second with three straight rounds below par ... Helped Carolina win the team title ... Low round was a 67 (second round, ASU Thunderbird Invite ... Ranks in the top 10 of the European Amateur rankings ... Tied for 10th in the International Amateur European Championship during the summer ... Also helped Germany to a 12th-place finish at the Eisenhower Cup in October, 2006.

### PRIOR TO SOUTH CAROLINA

Ranked No. 1 German (Men's) Amateur in 2004 ... Also earned the No. 1-ranking among all German Youth Amateurs ... Captured the 2004 European Youth Championship in Ireland ... Won the 2004 Optimist International Junior ... Top-10 finisher in the 2004 World Amateur held in Puerto Rico.



**2005-2006 Results**

| Tournament                 | Rounds       | Finish |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Bank of Tennessee          | 71-68-69=208 | 2nd    |
| Isleworth Collegiate       | 69-78-79=226 | T-32nd |
| Carpet Capital Collegiate  | 71-79-72=222 | T-40th |
| Mercedes-Benz Collegiate   | 74-74-75=223 | T6th   |
| Sun Trust Gator Invite     | 74-79-72=225 | T-37th |
| Schenkel E-Z-Go Invite     | 75-74-73=222 | T-37th |
| Hootie at Bulls Bay        | 70-75-70=215 | T-9th  |
| ASU Thunderbird Invite     | 71-67-76=214 | T-28th |
| SEC Championship           | 71-73-69=213 | T-14th |
| Linger Longer Invitational | 78-77-76=231 | T-55th |
| NCAA East Regional         | 77-75-70=222 | T-36th |
| NCAA Championship          | 70-74-72=216 | T-21st |

Season Stroke Average: 73.25

**Career**

Top-10 Finishes: 3

Top-20 Finishes: 4

Low Round: 67

(Only varsity events counted)



**Florian**  
**FRITSCH**



**TEEING OFF WITH  
DAVID KITE**

Major: Business

Teammate Who Will Be Most Successful 10 Years From Now: Paul Woodbury

Fiercest Competitor: Florian Fritsch

Sweetest Swing: Mark Anderson

Best Off The Tee: Warren Thomas

Best Short Game: George Bryan IV

What Is The Best Part Of Your Golf Game: Putting

Your Favorite Columbia Area Restaurant: The Palmetto Pig

Best Food That You Make: Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich

Your Favorite Thing About Being At South Carolina: Being in the South.

What Drives You: Desire to play professionally. Desire to work hard at whatever I do.

Your most memorable sports moment: My first hole in one.

My main goal for the season is: To be an All-American, and help the team win championships.

Advice You'd Give To Young People: Seek what is eternal.

The TV show you never miss if you can help it: Lost

If You Could Pick Three Celebrities To Play A Round Of Golf With, Who Would You Choose And What Would You Talk About: Sam Snead, Ben Hogan, Byron Nelson -- I would love to listen and watch them compete.

**DAVID KITE**

Redshirt Junior >> Austin, Texas (Westlake)

**COACH'S QUOTE:**

"David is the model student-athlete and the spiritual leader of the team. He is a hard worker and strong competitor who has steadily improved all areas of his game."

**2005-2006**

Played as an individual in the Mercedes-Benz Collegiate Championship where he finished tied for 63rd ... Competed in three Garnet Team events ... Placed in a tie for eighth at the Billy Joe Patton Intercollegiate ... Named to the SEC Good Works Team ... Also a member of the SEC Academic Honor Roll.

**2004-2005**

Member of the team ... Named to the SEC Academic Honor Roll.

**2003-2004**

Redshirted as a freshman at South Carolina.

**PRIOR TO SOUTH CAROLINA**

Attended West Lake High School in Austin, Texas ... Lettered in golf for three years ... Was a four-time district winner ... Member of the team that finished first in the state in 2001 and third in the state in 2002 and 2003 ... Two-time contestant at the Western Junior ... Finished 15th at the 2002 Hudson Junior ... Member of the National Honor Society ... Son of former PGA great and current Champion Tour standout Tom Kite.



**2005-2006 Results**

| <b>Tournament</b>         | <b>Rounds</b> | <b>Finish</b> |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Raines Development Inter. | 73-73-75=221  | T-32nd*       |
| Patton Intercollegiate    | 69-78=147     | T-8th*        |
| Coker College Collegiate  | 80-78=158     | T-27th*       |
| Mercedes-Benz Collegiate  | 77-81-84=242  | T-63rd!       |

Season Stroke Average: 80.67

\* Garnet Team event

! Played as an individual

**Career**

Top-10 Finishes: 0

Top-20 Finishes: 0

Low Round: 77

(Only varsity events counted)



**David**  
**KITE**



# ALLEN KOON

Sophomore >> Bamberg, S.C. (Bamberg-Ehrhardt)

**COACH'S QUOTE:**

"Allen is a solid contributor and lifelong Gamecock. A team player with a good attitude, he has a great work ethic and continues to improve. He should be an integral part of USC's success."

**2005-2006**

Capped his freshman season with a 75.53 stroke average ... Played in 10 varsity events, including the NCAA Championship ... Had three top-25 finishes ... Turned in his best performance of the season by finishing tied for 22nd at the NCAA East Regional ... Rebounded from a tough start to post an even-par 72 and a three-under 69, his low round of the year, in the final round ... Tied for 25th at both the Isleworth-UCF Collegiate Invitational and the Mercedes-Benz Collegiate Championship ... During the fall, finished tied for first-place individually in the Billy Joe Patton Intercollegiate (Garnet Team) with a two-under par performance ... Placed in a tie for 12th in the Raines Development Intercollegiate (Garnet Team) ... Made the SEC Freshmen Academic Honor Roll.

**PRIOR TO SOUTH CAROLINA**

South Carolina's No. 1-ranked Junior Golfer and Jay Haas Award Winner in 2004 ... Led Bamberg-Ehrhardt to the State Team Title as a senior in 2005 ... Captured medalist honors as well as the State Championship in his final prep season ... Earned AA All-State honors three straight years ... Five-time AA All-Region selection ... Won the 2004 South Carolina Junior Amateur and the SCJGA Caddie Classic ... Finished runner-up in the 2004 National Insurance Classic, AJGA at Highland Oaks and the Southern Cross Tournament.

**TEERING OFF WITH ALLEN KOON**

Major: Business

Teammate Who Will Be Most Successful 10 Years From Now: Patrick Cuning

Fiercest Competitor: Mark Anderson

Sweetest Swing: Baker Elmore

Best Off The Tee: Florian Fritsch

Best Short Game: Florian Fritsch

What Is The Best Part Of Your Golf Game: Control

Your Favorite Columbia Area Restaurant: Birds on a Wire

Best Food That You Make: You name it, I can do it.

Your Favorite Thing About Being At South Carolina: It's been a life-long dream to play for the Gamecocks, and I just love being a part of the program

What Drives You: Championships

Your most memorable sports moment: Last round at regionals this past spring (2006), when we advanced to nationals.

My main goal for the season is: Be a leader

Advice You'd Give To Young People: Stay focused and set high goals for yourself

The TV show you never miss if you can help it: Law and Order

If You Could Pick Three Celebrities To Play A Round Of Golf With, Who Would You Choose And What Would You Talk About: Chris Angel, Tiger Woods, Danica Patrick. First of all I would get Chris Angel to do some of the crazy stuff he does. I guess I would just want to talk to them about how they became so successful, and see if they could offer me any tips.





**2005-2006 Results**

| Tournament                   | Rounds       | Finish  |
|------------------------------|--------------|---------|
| Raines Development           | 73-69-73=215 | T-12th* |
| Patton Intercollegiate       | 70-72=142    | T-1st*  |
| Isleworth Collegiate         | 81-78-85=244 | T-82nd  |
| Mercedes-Benz Collegiate     | 77-76-77=230 | T-25th  |
| Sun Trust Gator Invitational | 73-76-72=221 | T-25th  |
| Schenkel E-Z-Go Invitational | 76-71-80=227 | T-55th  |
| Hootie at Bulls Bay          | 71-74-75=220 | T-33rd  |
| ASU Thunderbird Invite       | 77-74-77=228 | T-72nd  |
| SEC Championship             | 76-76-72=224 | 51st    |
| Linger Longer Invitational   | 76-78-75=229 | T-48th  |
| NCAA East Regional           | 79-72-69=220 | T-22nd  |
| NCAA Championship            | 72-76-75=223 | T-92nd  |

Season Stroke Average: 75.53

\* Garnet Team event

**Career**

Top-10 Finishes: 0

Top-20 Finishes: 0

Low Round: 69

(Only varsity events counted)



**Allen**  
**KOON**



## TEERING OFF WITH MARK SILVERS

**Major:** Business

**Teammate Who Will Be Most Successful 10 Years From Now:** Florian Fritsch

**Fiercest Competitor:** Mark Anderson

**Sweetest Swing:** Patrick Cunning

**Best Off The Tee:** Florian Fritsch

**Best Short Game:** Allen Koon

**What Is The Best Part Of Your Golf Game:**  
I would have to say my short game. It has come a long way since I have been here.

**Your Favorite Columbia Area Restaurant:**  
California Dreaming

**Best Food That You Make:** Steak

**Your Favorite Thing About Being At South Carolina:** I get to represent my school by doing what I love. Also, I believe this team has formed a bond that will last forever.

**What Drives You:** The dream to be the best there is.

**Your most memorable sports moment:** I knocked in a wedge for eagle on my last hole to shoot 64 in the Future Masters

**My main goal for the season is:** Be an All-American, lead us to a national championship

**Advice You'd Give To Young People:** Never give up. Golf can be a frustrating game, so stay positive, keep practicing, and it will pay off.

**The TV show you never miss if you can help it:** Family Guy

**If You Could Pick Three Celebrities To Play A Round Of Golf With, Who Would You Choose And What Would You Talk About:** Bill Murray, Will Farrell, and Jessica Simpson. I probably wouldn't be talking because I would be laughing the whole time.

# MARK SILVERS

Sophomore >> Savannah, Ga. (Savannah Country Day)

### COACH'S QUOTE:

"Mark continues to improve in all areas. He is a long hitter and probably the best putter on the team. He has a great work ethic and attitude."

### 2005-2006

Played in three varsity events during his freshman season ... Posted a 75.78 stroke average ... Earned a tie for fifth-place in the Billy Joe Patton Intercollegiate (Garnet Team) ... Shot a one-under par 71 in the second round of the Isleworth-UCF Collegiate Invitational, his best round of the season ... Made the SEC Freshmen Academic Honor Roll.

### PRIOR TO SOUTH CAROLINA

Won the 2004 Georgia High School Regional, the 2001 Junior Azalea and the 2001 Florence Invitational ... Finished fourth in the U.S. Junior Amateur in 2004 ... Member of the National Honor Society.



**2005-2006 Results**

| <b>Tournament</b>      | <b>Rounds</b> | <b>Finish</b> |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Raines Development     | 73-73-74=220  | T-30th*       |
| Patton Intercollegiate | 74-74=142     | T-5th*        |
| Isleworth Invitational | 78-71-79=228  | T-37th        |
| Carpet Capital         | 76-75-73=224  | T-50th        |
| Gator Invitational     | 73-79-78=230  | T-56th        |

Season Stroke Average: 75.78

\* Garnet Team event

**Career**

Top-10 Finishes: 0

Top-20 Finishes: 0

Low Round: 71

(Only varsity events counted)



**Mark**  
**SILVERS**



## TEERING OFF WITH WARREN THOMAS

Teammate Who Will Be Most Successful 10 Years From Now: Florian Fritsch

Fiercest Competitor: Mark Anderson

Sweetest Swing: Florian Fritsch

Best Off The Tee: Allen Koon

Best Short Game: George Bryan IV

What Is The Best Part Of Your Golf Game: short game (chipping/pitching/flops)

Your Favorite Columbia Area Restaurant: Bone Fish Grill

Best Food That You Make: Pork tenderloin with vegetables

Your Favorite Thing About Being At South Carolina: the team friendships

What Drives You: My determination to be the best at anything I do

Your Most Memorable Sports Moment: Becoming an AJGA All-American

My Main goal for the season is: 1st-3rd team All-American

Advice You'd Give To Young People: Play golf, -- it will keep you out of trouble and teach you tons about life.

The TV show you never miss if you can help it: Most anything on the Food Network

If You Could Pick Three Celebrities To Play A Round Of Golf With, Who Would You Choose And What Would You Talk About:

Tiger Woods, Roger Federer, Annika Sorenstam, and we would talk about the qualities and steps that it takes for someone to perform at the highest level possible.

# WARREN THOMAS

Junior >> Columbia, S.C. (Richland Northeast)

### COACH'S QUOTE:

"Warren is a long hitter who has the ability to overpower a course. He has an extensive junior record. Warren was instrumental in the team's late surge last spring to reach the NCAA finals."

### 2005-2006

Posted a 76.67 stroke average ... Competed in both the NCAA East Regional and NCAA Championship for the Gamecocks ... Finished tied for 110th at the East Regional ... Played his way into the postseason lineup with a ninth-place finish, the best of his career, as an individual at the Linger Longer Invitational ... Also competed in the TOPY Cup and the Mercedes-Benz Collegiate Championship ... In the Coker College Collegiate (Garnet Team Event), tied for fourth ... Placed in a tie for eighth at the Billy Joe Patton Intercollegiate (Garnet Team Event) ... Made the SEC Academic Honor Roll.

### 2004-2005

Competed in six tournaments as a true freshman for South Carolina ... Recorded a 76.89 stroke average ... Turned in one top-20 finish, placing in a tie for 19th at the Koch/Cleveland Golf Invitational ... Played for the Gamecocks in the SEC Championship where he finished 55th ... Season-long round was 72, achieved four times ... Member of the SEC Freshman Academic Honor Roll.

### PRIOR TO SOUTH CAROLINA

Six-year letterman at Richland Northeast High School ... 2004 AJGA All-American ... Listed among the Top 50 on the National Junior Golf Scoreboard, Class of 2004 ... Posted 10 first-place finishes and 23 top-10 finishes in his final two years of junior golf ... Won the 2003 AJGA Dunlop Junior Championship ... Qualified and played in the 2002 and 2003 Westfield (Ohio) PGA Junior Championship, finishing fourth in 2002 ... Placed first in the Carolinas USGA Jr. Amateur Qualifier and played in the US Jr. Amateur in Maryland in 2003 ... Member of Team USA at the World Junior Golf Cup Grand Finals in August of 2001 ... Won two of three matches in the event as the U.S. team beat Canada in St. Andrews, Scotland.



**2005-2006 Results**

| Tournament                 | Rounds       | Finish  |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------|
| TOPY Cup                   | 80-73-75=228 | T-32nd  |
| Patton Intercollegiate     | 76-71=147    | T-8th*  |
| Coker College Collegiate   | 74-72=145    | T-4th*  |
| Mercedes-Benz Collegiate   | 77-81-79=242 | T-59th  |
| Linger Longer Invitational | 72-72-72=216 | 9th     |
| NCAA East Regional         | 79-73-81=233 | T-110th |
| NCAA Championship          | 74-76-81-231 | T-135th |

Season Stroke Average: 76.67

\* Garnet Team event

**2004-2005 Results**

| Tournament               | Rounds       | Finish |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Bank of Tennessee        | 81-72-72=225 | T-54th |
| Koch Intercollegiate     | 72-78-72=222 | T-19th |
| Gator Invitational       | 78-72-76=226 | T-45th |
| So. Highlands Collegiate | 74-80-81=235 | T-68th |
| Augusta State Invite     | 80-79-79=238 | T-55th |
| SEC Championship         | 79-77-82=238 | 55th   |

**Career**

Top-10 Finishes: 1

Top-20 Finishes: 2

Low Round: 72

(Only varsity events counted)



**Warren**  
**THOMAS**



# GEORGE BRYAN IV

Freshman >> Chapin, S.C. (Dutch Fork)

## TEEING OFF WITH GEORGE BRYAN IV

Major: Sports & Entertainment Management

Teammate Who Will Be Most Successful 10 Years From Now: Florian Fritsch

Fiercest Competitor: Warren Thomas

Sweetest Swing: Florian Fritsch

Best Off The Tee: Allen Koon

Best Short Game: Patrick Rada

What Is The Best Part Of Your Golf Game: Everything, ball striking, driving and chipping

Your Favorite Columbia Area Restaurant: San Jose

Best Food That You Make: Scrambled Eggs

Your Favorite Thing About Being At South Carolina: I get to be around Patrick Rada and the facilities and resources are awesome.

What Drives You: My goals

Your most memorable sports moment: Teeing off on number 1 at Augusta National.

My main goal for the season is: My biggest goals for this year are being an All-American and an NCAA champion.

Advice You'd Give To Young People: Work hard and never give up.

The TV show you never miss if you can help it: I really don't watch TV shows, but during the summer it is the World Series of Poker.

If You Could Pick Three Celebrities To Play A Round Of Golf With, Who Would You Choose And What Would You Talk About: I would choose Tiger Woods, Michael Jordan and Lance Armstrong. I would talk to them about how and why they became successful.

### COACH'S QUOTE:

"George has great instincts and knowledge of the game of the golf. He's a hard worker and has all the shots. He has the potential to be one of the best ever to wear the garnet and black and should be a multiple-time All-American."

### PRIOR TO SOUTH CAROLINA

Finished first in the South Carolina Heritage Classic Foundation Player Rankings to win the Jay Haas Player of the Year Award in 2005 ... Played for coach Mark Giles at Dutch Fork High School, which finished fourth at the 2004 State Championship ... Earned All-State and all-region each year ... Competed in the British Amateur during the summer of 2006 ... Qualified for the 2005 U.S. Amateur and made it to match play ... Also qualified for the 2005 U.S. Junior and advanced to the round of 32 ... Won the 2005 CPGA Westfield, the 2005 Player's Championship, the 2005 Florence Junior and the 2004 Charles Tilghman ... Won the 2003 and 2005 Joe Wyatt and the 2005 Capital City Classic He also placed second at the 2005 Carolinas Junior ... Member of the all-Carolinas Junior Team ... An honor roll student who participated in National Honor Society and Beta Club.

Parents are George and Valerie Bryan ... Born Jan. 12, 1988 ... Major is sport and entertainment management.





# BRYAN MILLER

Freshman >> Dalton, Ga. (Dalton)

MEET THE GAMECOCKS

## TEERING OFF WITH BRYAN MILLER

Major: Business

Teammate Who Will Be Most Successful 10 Years From Now: Florian Fritsch

Fiercest Competitor: George Bryan IV

Sweetest Swing: Mark Silvers

Best Off The Tee: Allen Koon

Best Short Game: Patrick Cunning

What Is The Best Part Of Your Golf Game: My course management skills.

Your Favorite Columbia Area Restaurant: Harper's

Best Food That You Make: Steak

Your Favorite Thing About Being At South Carolina: The large school and Southern atmosphere.

What Drives You: My love for the game.

Your most memorable sports moment: Playing in the Dogwood Invitational with my Dad as my caddy.

My main goal for the season is: To qualify and play the post-season.

Advice You'd Give To Young People: Work hard and be sure to have fun with what you do.

The TV show you never miss if you can help it: House

If You Could Pick Three Celebrities To Play A Round Of Golf With, Who Would You Choose And What Would You Talk About: Ron White, Bill O'Reilly, and Taylor Hicks. We would joke about life and politics.

### COACH'S QUOTE:

"Bryan has made a significant impact as a walk-on. He's strong and athletic with good fundamentals. Bryan plays with little fear. He has a strong desire and great work ethic and could become a strong contender for playing time."

### PRIOR TO SOUTH CAROLINA

Played for coach Chad Jordan at Dalton High School ... Won the Mannington Invitational in 2006 ... Also earned medalist honors at the 2004 Region Championship ... Posted a pair of top-10 finishes at the Georgia AAAA State Championship, placing in a tie for third in 2006 and finishing sixth in 2004 ... Helped Dalton win the 2004 AAAA team title and a third-place showing at in 2004 ... Placed seventh at the Georgia State Junior Championship ... Represented his home state in the Georgia-South Carolina Challenge Matches ... A three-time all-area selection ... Competed in the Dogwood Invitational ... Member of the National Honor Society, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Latin Club ... Parents are Clay and Kim Miller ... Father played college golf at Newberry College ... Born Feb. 19, 1988 ... Major is business.





## TEERING OFF WITH PATRICK RADA

Major: Business

Teammate Who Will Be Most Successful 10 Years From Now: Patrick Cunning

Fiercest Competitor: George Bryan IV

Sweetest Swing: Florian Fritsch

Best Off The Tee: Baker Elmore

Best Short Game: Allen Koon

What Is The Best Part Of Your Golf Game: Short Game

Your Favorite Columbia Area Restaurant: California Dreaming

**What Drives You:** The passion to win. Once you've experienced it once, you want victory everytime you tee it up. I also have all the support in the world. My family is unbelievable. Anytime I am feeling down or not sure about myself, they are always there to remind me of successes and encourage me.

**Your most memorable sports moment:** Winning the 2005 South Carolina Junior Championship with my Mom being able to watch every hole.

**My main goal for the season is:** Be an All-American

**Advice You'd Give To Young People:** Don't ever let people tell you that you can't do something, because with hard work and determination you can accomplish anything.

**If You Could Pick Three Celebrities To Play A Round Of Golf With, Who Would You Choose And What Would You Talk About:** I would choose Lance Armstrong, Rudy and Jack Nicklaus. I would talk to Lance about overcoming cancer and dominating a sport like no athlete ever has. I would talk to Rudy about how he stayed so determined and how much heart he had to stick it out at Notre Dame when no one said he could play. I would just like to hear all of Jack's insight on the game of golf and listen to all the stories he has to tell.

# PATRICK RADA

Freshman >> Anderson, S.C. (T.L. Hanna)

### COACH'S QUOTE:

"Patrick is very athletic and has a strong short game. He's tenacious and has a desire to be the best. Patrick is one of four talented freshmen who should re-write the Gamecock record book!"

### PRIOR TO SOUTH CAROLINA

Played for coach Yon Radford at T.L. Hanna High School ... Capped his high school career by winning the 4A Individual State Championship in 2006 ... Earned All-State honors a senior ... Helped T.L. Hanna advance to State each year during his career and finish in the top four three times (2003-2004-2005) ... Finished No. 2 in the South Carolina Heritage Classic Foundation Player Rankings and made the American Junior Golf Association's All-America Team in 2005 ... Played in the U.S. Amateur during the summer of 2006 ... Competed in the South Carolina-Georgia Team Matches and the Carolinas-Virginias Team Matches ... Earned medalist honors at both the South Carolina Junior Championship and the AJGA Dunlop Carolina Classic in 2005 ... Also placed in the top five at the Ballentine Junior, Anderson Sunshine House Junior, Jimmy Self Junior Championship, Georgia-South Carolina Cup, Junior Azalea, PGA Junior Series-Mississippi, South Carolina Junior Match Play Championship, Carolina's Junior Championship and the South Carolina Junior Four-Ball Championship ... One of four players named to the All-Carolinas Junior Team ... Member of the National Honor Society ... Selected a member of Junior Leadership Anderson ... Received the Life Scholarship ... Parents are Ken and the late Janet Rada ... Born Jan. 7, 1988 ... Major is business.







# PAUL WOODBURY

Freshman >> Lake City, S.C. (Lake City)

MEET THE GAMECOCKS

## COACH'S QUOTE:

"Paul is rapidly improving and has great potential. He's a hard worker who continues to progress as a ball striker. He is gaining strength and has shown that he is a smart player."

## PRIOR TO SOUTH CAROLINA

Played for coach Andy Hamilton at Lake City High School ... Capped his prep career by winning the Class 3A State Championship and earning All-State honors ... Finished No. 3 in the South Carolina Heritage Classic Foundation Player Rankings in 2005 ... Placed second at the SCJGA Junior in 2004 and 2005 and the Carolina PGA Junior Westfield in 2005 ... Also placed third at the 2005 Fall Challenge, the 2005 Bobby Chapman and the Carolinas Big 1 ... Was a top-10 finisher at the 2005 Carolinas Junior ... Member of the all-Carolinas Junior Team. ... Served as a volunteer firefighter ... Ranked No. 2 academically in his senior class ... Member of the National Honor Society and the Beta Club.

Parents are Joseph and Barbara Woodbury ... Born Nov. 19, 1987 ... Major is business.

## TEERING OFF WITH PAUL WOODBURY

Teammate Who Will Be Most Successful 10 Years From Now: Mark Silvers

Fiercest competitor: Florian Fritsch

Sweetest Swing: Mark Anderson

Best Off The Tee: Florian Fritsch

Best Short Game: Mark Anderson

What Is The Best Part Of Your Golf Game: Mid-Irons

Your Favorite Columbia Area Restaurant: Zaxby's

Best Food That You Make: Scrambled eggs

Your Favorite Thing About Being At South Carolina: Being a part of the garnet and black athletic program, and how well you are treated

What Drives You: Life - You get one chance to make a name for yourself, so do it!

Your most memorable sports moment: Shooting 65 at the Bobby Chapman and having the lead for a while

My main goal for the season is: To work on my swing and to feel a part of the team

Advice You'd Give To Young People: Study hard in high school and practice the short-game

The TV show you never miss if you can help it: House

If You Could Pick Three Celebrities To Play A Round Of Golf With, Who Would You Choose And What Would You Talk About: Tiger Woods, Andre Agassi and David Ortiz. I'd ask them how it feels to be one of the most elite athletes, and why are they better than everyone else?



## PROFESSIONAL STAFF

**Kevin O'Connell**

Executive Associate Athletics Director



Kevin O'Connell is in his second year as executive associate athletics director at the University of South Carolina.

O'Connell serves as the sport administrator for baseball, men's basketball, men's and women's soccer and men's and women's

golf. He also oversees the Gamecock athletics marketing and promotions, media relations, facilities and ticket operations, and serves as the department's liaison with Gamecock Sports Properties (Learfield and ISP Sports), Action Sports Media and Global Spectrum, the management company for the Colonial Center.

O'Connell came to South Carolina after spending six years at TCU as the Associate Athletics Director of External Operations. He was responsible for the Frogs' marketing and promotions, the TCU Sports Network, media relations, ticket operations, the community outreach program and served as the primary liaison with ESPN Regional Television. Additionally, he oversaw the TCU men's and women's golf, men's and women's swimming & diving and men's and women's track & field programs.

During O'Connell's tenure in Fort Worth, the Horned Frogs showed attendance growth in nearly every sport. TCU posted three of the top six football season attendance totals in school history. The women's basketball program boasted the top-ranked home season attendance figure in Conference USA four straight years and was ranked 32nd nationally in 2004-2005 with an average attendance of 3,462. TCU baseball averaged its highest attendance in school history during the 2005 campaign.

O'Connell moved to TCU from Miami (Ohio) University, where he spent four years as an associate athletics director. Prior to his stint at Miami, O'Connell served as President and Chief Operating Officer of the ITG Travel Companies in Raleigh, N.C. Before assuming his duties with ITG in 1989, the Falls Church, Va., native served eight years at North Carolina State, the last three as associate athletics director. O'Connell began his professional career with the Washington (D.C.) Diplomats of the North American Soccer League in 1977, working in various positions.

A 1975 graduate of Virginia Tech, O'Connell earned a master's degree in sports administration from Ohio University in 1977.

O'Connell and his wife, Becky, have three children: Shannon, a graduate of Furman University, Brent, a sophomore at South Carolina, and Becca, a freshman at Dreher High School.

**Gene Sprayberry**

Club-Fitting Technician



Gene Sprayberry is in his ninth year as the South Carolina club fitting technician. Prior to working with 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.

**Jennifer Herod**

Athletic Trainer



South Carolina graduate Jennifer Herod returned to Columbia to join the Gamecock athletic training staff as an assistant athletic trainer in the summer of 2005 after serving in a similar role at Ball State University since 1996. She works with the women's

basketball team and oversees men's and women's golf and men's and women's tennis.

Herod earned her master's of public health from USC in May of 1996 and moved on to Ball State, where she worked primarily with the women's basketball and men's and women's tennis teams. She was the direct supervisor for the Cardinals' women's soccer, men's and women's swimming and diving, women's cross country and women's track and field teams as well as the coordinator of Olympic sports coverage.

While going to school at South Carolina, Herod served as a graduate assistant athletic trainer for two years working primarily with the Gamecock softball and men's and women's swimming and diving teams.

Originally from Griffith, Ind., Herod got her start serving as an inpatient rehabilitation aide during the summer months in 1992 and 1993. She was a student volunteer assistant in the Physical Therapy Clinic at the Purdue University Student Hospital from September of 1992 through May of 1993. She earned a bachelor's degree from Purdue in 1994, double-majoring in athletic training and movement and sports science.

She is a certified member of the National Athletic Trainers Association, along with numerous other affiliations and certifications.

Herod is married to Kevin Herod. The couple has a four-year-old daughter named Olivia.

**Billy Anderson**

Strength and Conditioning



Billy Anderson is in his 14th year at the University of South Carolina. Anderson serves as strength coach for the baseball, softball and men's and women's golf teams.

Anderson began working in 1992 at South Carolina as a graduate assistant and has been a full-time member of the strength staff since 1994.

Anderson is certified by the United States American Weightlifting Association (USAWA) as well as the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association (CSCCA) and the National Association of Speed and Explosion (NASE)

A native of Stratford, Conn., Anderson received his bachelor of science degree in Health Fitness from Springfield (Mass.) College.

While at Springfield, Anderson ran track all four years and is still the record holder in the 800 meter run. He was the junior and senior Athlete of the Year at Springfield as his team was the ECAC champions both years. In 1991, Anderson finished eighth in the 800 meter run at the NCAA Division II Indoor Championships.

A 1987 graduate of Bunnell High School in Stratford, Conn., Anderson was an All-State performer in football and track.

Anderson and his wife, the former Tish Fellers, were married July 22, 2000. They have a son, Kaden Ellis, born on Sept. 11, 2005.

**Al Daniel**

Academic Advisor



Al Daniel is in his first year as an academic advisor at the University of South Carolina. Daniel works with the men's basketball and men's golf teams.

Prior to joining the Gamecock staff, Daniel worked at Tennessee for four years from 2001-2005,

spending two seasons as the Director of Basketball Operations and two seasons as an assistant coach.

A 22-year veteran of collegiate athletics, Daniel went to UT after spending the 2000-01 season coaching at NIT Champion Tulsa. His one-year stint at Tulsa marked a return to coaching for Daniel after spending three years as the associate director of Howell Sports Management, Inc.

Before taking a break from the coaching profession, Daniel spent six seasons (1990-96) as a member of Les Robinson's coaching staff at N.C. State. Following the 1990-91 season he was promoted to associate head coach. Daniel also coached 10 seasons at Furman, spending the first nine seasons as an assistant before being promoted to associate head coach.

After receiving his bachelor's degree in political science from Furman in 1979, Daniel was a fourth-round pick by San Antonio in the 1979 NBA Draft.

Daniel is a member of the athletics hall of fame at Anderson Junior College and Furman University.