



Over the Last Six Seasons . . . **THE GAMECOCKS HAVE**

- ★ One National Runner-Up Finish: 2002
- ★ Three College World Series Appearances:
2002, 2003, 2004
- ★ Three SEC Championships:
2000 SEC Champion
2002 SEC Champion
2004 SEC Tournament Champion
- ★ Three SEC East Titles: 2000, 2002, 2003
- ★ Five NCAA Super Regional Appearances
2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004
- ★ Six Consecutive NCAA Regional Appearances:
2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005
- ★ Won More SEC Games than any team in the league:
115-64 record
- ★ Has the third-highest win total in Division I Baseball:
301-110 record
- ★ Six Consecutive Top 25 Postseason Rankings
2000 - 4th, 2001 - 12th, 2002 - 2nd, 2003 - 6th
2004 - 3rd, 2005 - 21st
- ★ One National Player of the Year
- ★ One SEC Player of the Year
- ★ One SEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year
- ★ Two SEC Pitchers of the Year
- ★ 15 All-Americans
- ★ 18 All-SEC Players
- ★ 39 Professional Baseball Signees
- ★ Six consecutive Top 25 Recruiting Classes:
2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005
- ★ Top Ranked Recruiting Class in the Nation, two of the last three years:
2003, 2005
- ★ Six Consecutive Top 15 Attendance Rankings in the Nation:
2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005



CAROLINA BASEBALL

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Credits

The 2006 South Carolina baseball media guide is a publication of the USC Media Relations Office. Written and edited by Andrew Kitick and Tom Price. Layout and design by Andrew Kitick.

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CAROLINA BASEBALL

South Carolina Quick Facts

General Information

Location Columbia, S.C.
Enrollment.....23,772
Founded 1801
University President.....Dr. Andrew Sorensen
Athletics DirectorEric Hyman
Conference..... Southeastern
Nickname.....Gamecocks
Colors..... Garnet & Black
Mascot Cocky

Team Information

Head Coach Ray Tanner
Alma Mater NC State, 1980
Record at South Carolina 413-175 (10th Year)
Career Record 808-348-3 (19th Year)
Associate Head Coach..... Jim Toman
Assistant CoachesMark Calvi, Monte Lee
Administrative Assistant..... Kristi Davis
Strength & Conditioning Coach Billy Anderson
Director of Academic Support Jason Pappas
Associate Athletics Trainer..... Brainard Cooper

2005 Season In Review/2006 Outlook

2005 Overall Record 41-23
2005 SEC Record/Finish 16-14/T5th
2005 Postseason Finish....2nd at Atlanta Regional
Starters Returning/Lost 5/4
Pitchers Returning/Lost 8/8

Program History

First Year of Baseball 1892
First Year in SEC 1992
All-Time Record 2,043-1,286-17
All-Time SEC Record 217-175
SEC Championships..... 2 (2000, 2002)
SEC Conference Tournament Titles..... 1 (2004)
SEC East Titles 4 (1999, 2000, 2002, 2003)
NCAA Appearances/Last..... 21/2005
NCAA Tournament Record..... 80-46 (.635)
College World Series Appearances/Last 8/2004
College World Series Record 17-16 (.515)

Athletic Administration Staff

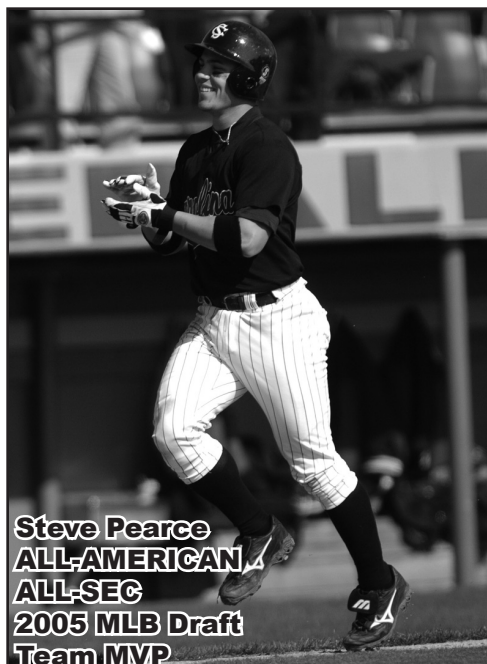
Executive Associate A.D. Kevin O'Connell
External Relations
Senior Associate A.D...... Brad Edwards
Business and Development
Senior Associate A.D...... Shawn Eichorst
Administration
Senior Associate A.D...... Val Sheley
Senior Women's Administrator
Senior Associate A.D...... Harold White
Academic Support and Student Services
Associate A.D...... Jeff Davis
Operations and Facilities
Associate A.D...... Charles Waddell
Media Relations Director Steve Fink
Director of Ticket Operations.... Kent Hegenauer
Assistant A.D...... Shawn Burke
Event Management
Assistant A.D...... Michelle Schmitt
Planning and Special Projects
Assistant A.D...... Dr. Rod Walters
Sports Medicine

Media Information

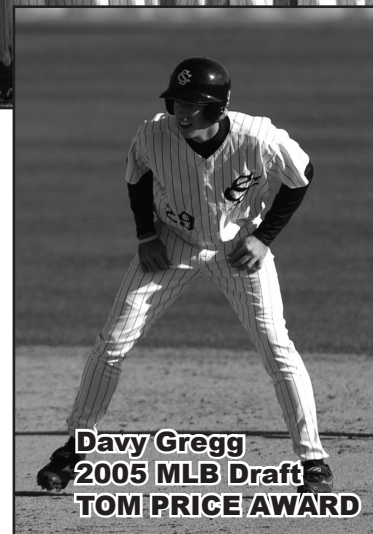
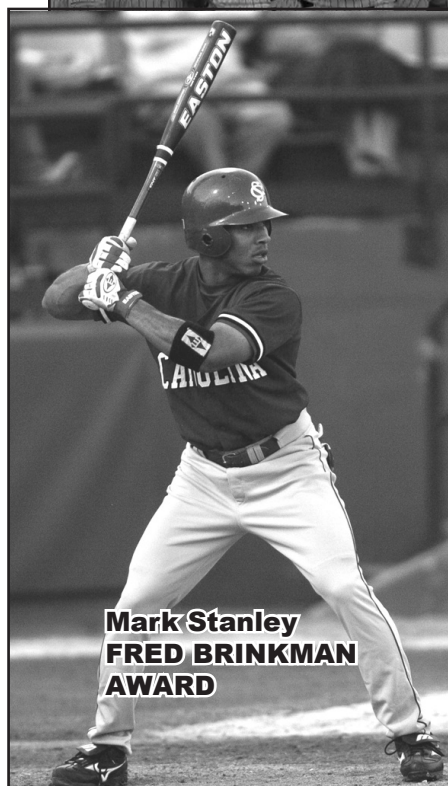
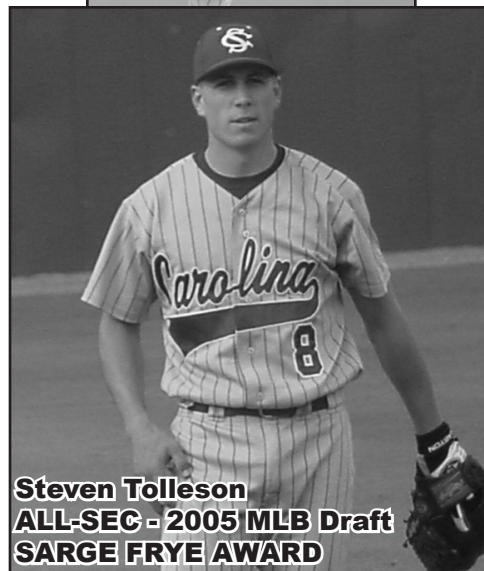
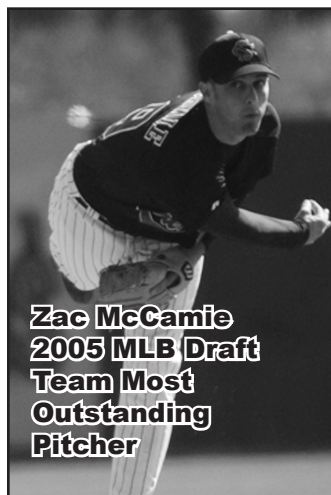
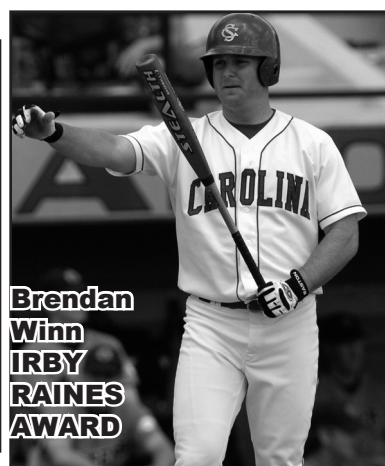
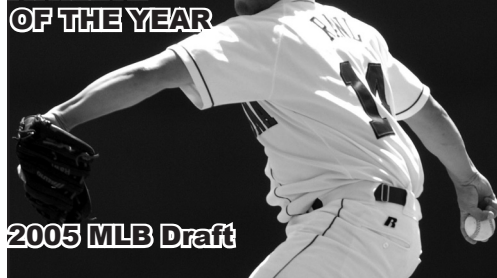
Media Relations Director Steve Fink
Assistant Director/BB Contact Andrew Kitick
SID Emeritus/Historian..... Tom Price
Associate Director Gavin Lang
Assistant Director Christy Lang
Assistant A.D./Asst. Director Michelle Schmitt
Assistant Director Ayanna Wakefield
Media Relations Main Phone..... 803-777-5204
Media Relations Fax 803-777-2967
Kitick Office Phone..... 803-777-5257
Kitick Cell Phone..... 803-240-4150
Kitick E-mail kitick@gwm.sc.edu
Official Athletics Web Site.... www.uscsports.com

CAROLINA BASEBALL

CAROLINA BASEBALL -- 2005 Award Winners



Aaron Rawl
USC MALE
STUDENT-
ATHLETE
OF THE YEAR

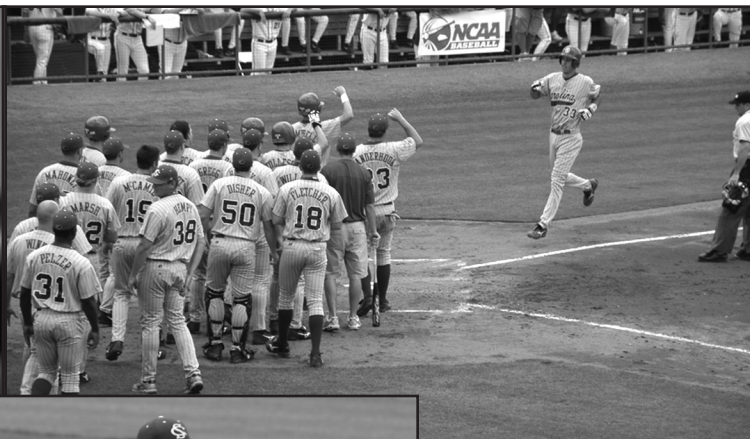


CAROLINA BASEBALL

SOUTH CAROLINA IN THE POSTSEASON -- 2005 NCAA Atlanta Regional



Steve Pearce was named to the All-Tournament Team at the 2005 Atlanta Regional. Pearce collected several hits including a pair of homers in South Carolina's 8-3 win over Georgia Tech.



Neil Giesler was also named to the All-Tournament Team at the Atlanta Regional. His three-run homer helped Carolina to a 4-3 win over Michigan in an elimination game. Giesler also earned All-Tournament honors at the 2005 SEC Tournament.



Steven Tolleson had one RBI hit and scored two runs in the same day in wins over Michigan and Georgia Tech.



Zac McCamie earned a win over Michigan in a 4-3 Carolina victory over the Wolverines at the NCAA Regional.

Aaron Rawl was the starting pitcher in Carolina's opening game vs. Michigan. Rawl pitched 7.2 innings in the Gamecock win over the Wolverines.



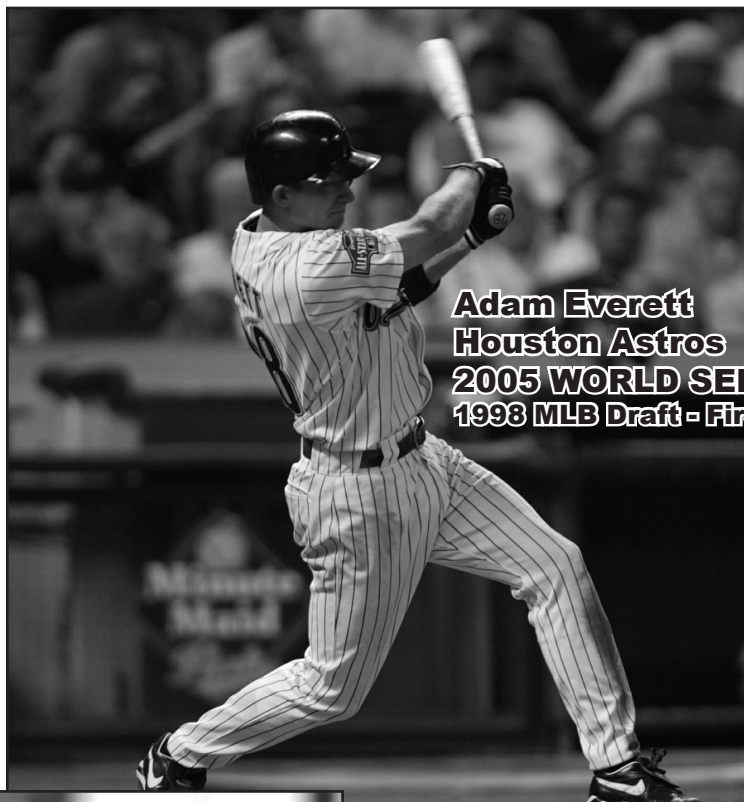
Davy Gregg scored the winning run in the ninth inning in Carolina's 6-5 opening game victory at the NCAA Regional in Atlanta.

CAROLINA BASEBALL

GAMECOCKS IN THE PROS



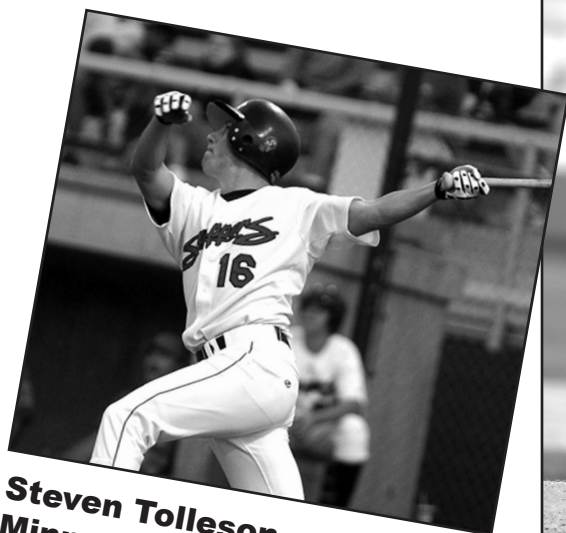
Matt Campbell
Kansas City Royals
2004 MLB Draft - First Round



Adam Everett
Houston Astros
2005 WORLD SERIES
1998 MLB Draft - First Round



Chad Blackwell
Pittsburgh Pirates
2004 MLB Draft - Fifth Round



Steven Tolleson
Minnesota Twins
2005 MLB Draft - Fifth Round



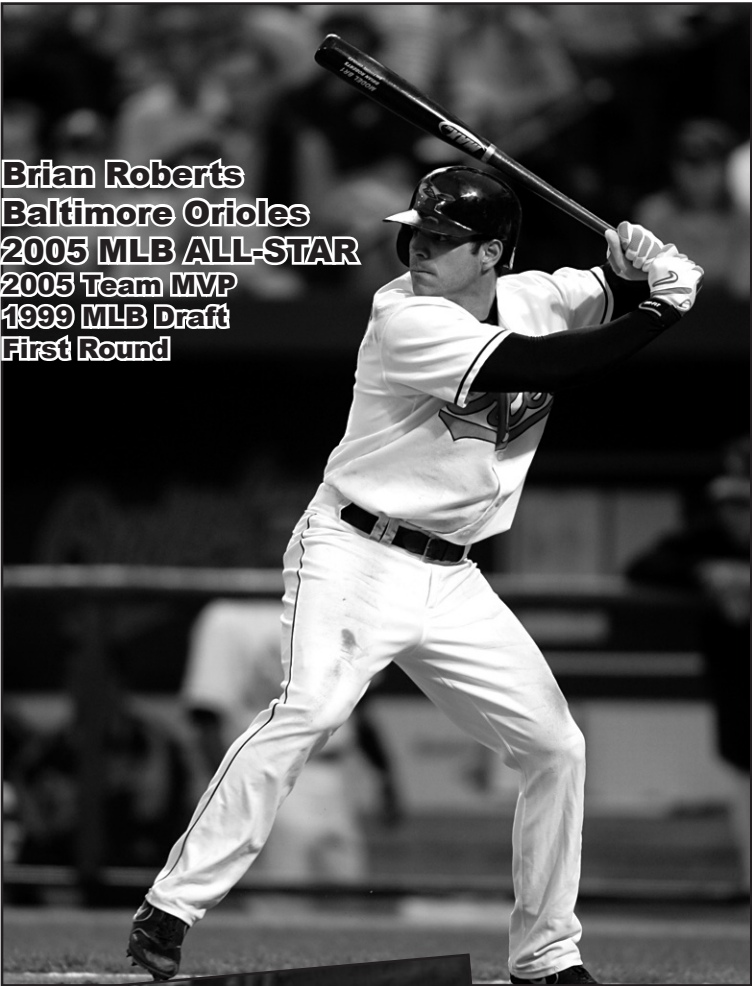
Lee Gronkiewicz
Toronto Blue Jays



Brian Buscher
San Francisco Giants
2003 MLB Draft - Third Round

CAROLINA BASEBALL

GAMECOCKS IN THE PROS



Brian Roberts
Baltimore Orioles
2005 MLB ALL-STAR
2005 Team MVP
1999 MLB Draft
First Round




Marcus McBeth
Oakland Athletics
2001 MLB Draft - Fourth Round




Jon Coutlangus
San Francisco Giants



Drew Meyer
Texas Rangers
2002 MLB Draft - First Round



Peter Bauer
Houston Astros
2000 MLB Draft
Second Round



Steve Pearce
Pittsburgh Pirates

CAROLINA BASEBALL

SARGE FRYE FIELD

The University of South Carolina lost a legend, an icon and a friend on Sept. 3, 2003, when Weldon B. "Sarge" Frye died at the age of 90, ending more than half a century of service to the Gamecock athletics program.

Sarge officially retired July 1, 1997, after 45 years of service. That was 20 years after he retired from full-time employment but remained on board to supervise maintenance of athletic facilities.

For the next six plus years, until a few days prior to his death, Sarge was on hand almost daily as a consultant and advisor regarding the maintenance of playing fields and other athletic facilities.

Those facilities included Sarge Frye Field, the baseball stadium that University trustees named for Sarge on May 11, 1980.

A native of Medon, Tenn., Frye was a master sergeant when he retired from the U.S. Army in 1953 after more than 23 years of service. A combat veteran of World War II and the Korean Conflict, Frye participated in the allied invasion of Europe, was wounded in action and decorated with the bronze star. He received a second bronze star in Korea.

Frye came to work for the University of South Carolina in 1953 and was placed in charge of athletic facilities. His duties were soon expanded to include supervision of grounds for the entire campus. He retired from full-time employment in 1977 but continued to supervise the maintenance of athletic facilities through the 1996-97 academic year.

Three Generations

His wife, the former Ruby Howard of Anniston, Ala., passed away during the spring of 1997. Their son, Jerry, was a standout end on the South Carolina football squad, 1958-60, and was co-captain his senior year. Jerry's son Jay - Sarge's grandson - was a Gamecock football letterman, 1983-84.

Frye was honored in January 1993 when the American Baseball Coaches Association named him National Groundskeeper of the Year.

Sarge Frye Field is part of a 30-acre complex of athletic fields and buildings at the Rex Enright Athletic Center, named for the late University of South Carolina director of athletics and head football coach. Other facilities include the "Roundhouse" office building and the George Terry Olympic Sports building which houses dressing

and sports medicine facilities.

The latest improvements in on-going renovations of Sarge Frye Field included the addition of 400 chairback seats on the first base side before the 2001 season; installation of 1800 chairback seats and a new rest room equipped visitor's dugout were completed prior to the 1999 season.

A new baseball player's lounge and locker room was added to this facility in 1997. The first stage of extensive renovations scheduled for Sarge Frye Field included the locker room, lounge, which features a 60" big screen television, and enlargement of the home dugout.



Weldon B. "Sarge" Frye

A two-tier press box was completed in 1987. A 10-foot fence surrounds the outfield and there is a large batter's background, 20 feet high and 40 feet side behind the center field fence. A computerized scoreboard and message center was installed in 1984.

Dimensions

Sarge Frye Field currently seats 6,000, but overflow crowds in excess of capacity are common.

Dimensions are 325 feet at the left field foul pole, 360

feet in the power alleys, 390 feet in center field and 325 feet at the right field pole. The facility is well lit for night baseball.

The New Roost, a residence hall for students adjacent to Sarge Frye Field, was completed in 1989 and replaced the original Roost built 20 years earlier. Originally a dormitory exclusively for scholarship athletes, the New Roost now houses both student-athletes and non-athletes.

A portion of the original Roost has been remodeled into an academics enrichment center.

The Weems Baskin Track, Sam Daniel Tennis Center, the Eugene Stone Soccer Stadium, Beckham Softball field, practice fields and a golf green and practice area are also part of the Enright Athletic Center complex.

A field house containing indoor practice facilities for football, baseball, track, tennis and soccer was completed in 1991 and replaced a "Bubble" that was destroyed by Hurricane Hugo in 1989.

Tournaments

Sarge Frye Field was the site of the 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2004 NCAA Regional Tournament as well as the 2000, 2002, 2003 and 2004 NCAA Super Regional. In 1993 the Southeastern Conference Eastern Division Baseball Tournament was held at Sarge Frye Field.

South Carolina ranked sixth in the nation in attendance for the 2004 season and has been ranked among the top 15 in the country over the last six seasons.

Prior to that, the facility hosted six NCAA Regional baseball tournaments (1975-76-77-81-82-85) and the Metro Conference championship tournaments in 1987 and 1989. The South Carolina High School league often uses the facility for state championships and all-star games.

SARGE FRYE FIELD ATTENDANCE

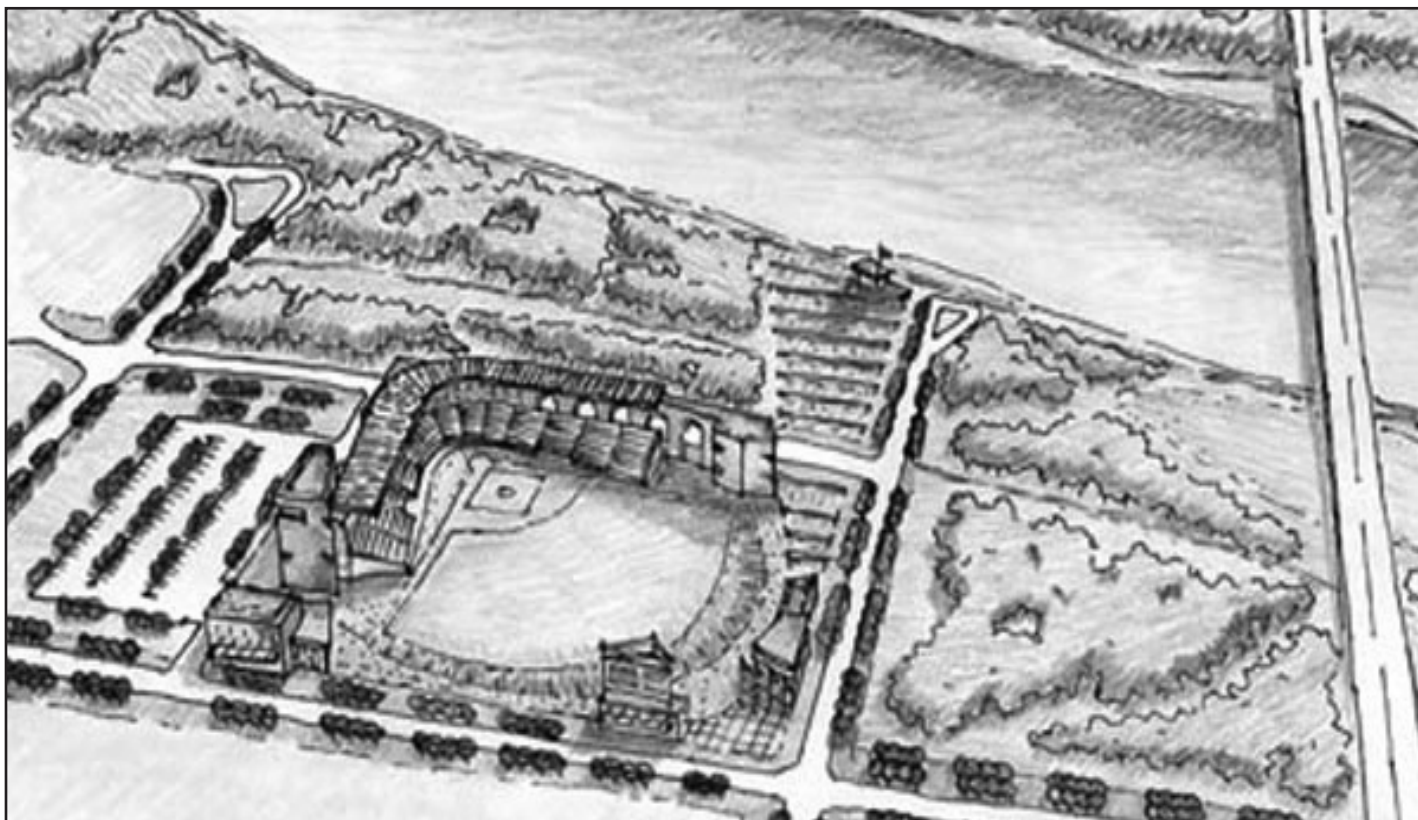
Year	Dates	Total	Avg.
2005	33	112,984	3,423
2004	41	159,142	3,881
2003	35	105,220	3,086
2002	41	151,521	3,695
2001	37	145,616	3,935
2000	41	134,207	3,273
1999	35	57,829	1,652
1998	38	54,416	1,424
1997	36	41,197	1,153
1996	26	34,657	1,333
1995	32	37,351	1,167
1994	35	55,572	1,588
1993	32	47,439	1,482
1992	25	41,251	1,650
1991	30	41,780	1,393
1990	30	44,026	1,468
1989	31	38,049	1,227
1988	28	48,232	1,786
1987	33	55,968	1,696
1986	29	43,375	1,496
1985	37	84,000	2,270
1984	29	38,550	1,329
1983	24	37,100	1,546
1982	35	87,350	2,496
1981	33	76,432	2,316
1980	26	67,650	2,602
1979	33	71,000	2,152
1978	28	37,550	1,341
1977	30	52,400	1,747
28 Years			
Total	861	1,690,931	1,963



21NCAA APPEARANCES 1974-77, 1980-86, 1988, 1992-93, 1998, 2000-05

CAROLINA BASEBALL

USC UNVEILS PLANS FOR NEW BASEBALL STADIUM



The Executive Committee of the University of South Carolina's Board of Trustees approved a plan on December 20 to build a new baseball stadium south of Blossom Street, adjacent to the Congaree River.

The 6,800-seat stadium, estimated to cost \$20 million, will sit within a 29-acre tract of land – south of Blossom and west of Williams Street – that the university plans to purchase from Guignard Associates and others for \$8.5 million.

University President Andrew Sorensen praised the leadership of head baseball coach Ray Tanner and the Guignard family's commitment to the university as being vital to the project.

The baseball program, he said, "is among the nation's elite. It deserves and will have one of the finest – if not the finest – collegiate baseball facilities in the country. Coach Tanner has worked diligently with us as this matter has evolved, and we owe him our thanks."

"There is absolutely no question that this would not be possible without the complete cooperation of, and collaboration with, Guignard Associates, demonstrating again that this family is a true catalyst for progress in the Riverbanks Region."

Tanner, who has taken three Gamecock baseball teams to the College World Series, said the new stadium will be worthy of the people who have helped establish the program among the nation's best.

"We are excited to be moving forward with a stadium and a location that will be second to none in all of college baseball," he said.

"Our new facility will be a very special venue for our former players, our current players and for our great fans."

The baseball stadium is part of an even larger university initiative – known as Innovista – that will dramatically expand the University's presence westward. Plans call for new research facilities, retail outlets and recreational venues.

Sorensen said Sasaki Associates of Boston, Innovista's master planner, evaluated the potential site within the context of the overall planning effort.

"They gave an enthusiastic thumbs up," he said. "They also recognized the

cultural and historic 'fit' of baseball in this area and that the tract is sizable enough to handle issues such as access and parking. Another advantage is several former major league baseball players who live in the Granby community grew up playing for the Granby Mill Team."

University officials have advanced the following time line for the stadium project:

Dec. 20, 2005 – Announcement of location for new Carolina Baseball stadium.

Dec. 20, 2005 – May 2006 – Community input, design work and local government approvals.

October 2006 – Construction on stadium begins.

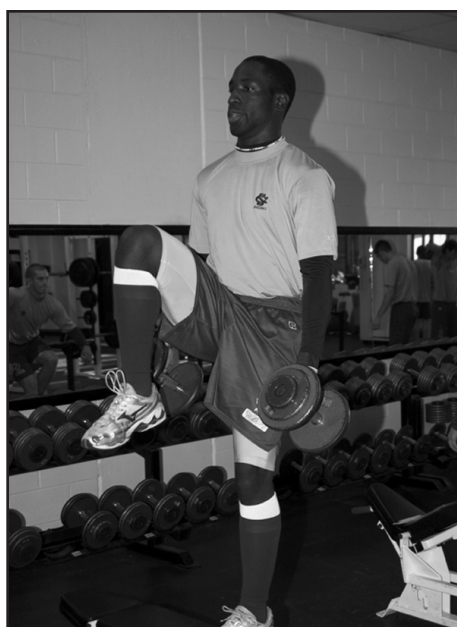
October 2007 – Fall practice in new stadium.

February 2008 – 2008 baseball season begins in new stadium.



CAROLINA BASEBALL

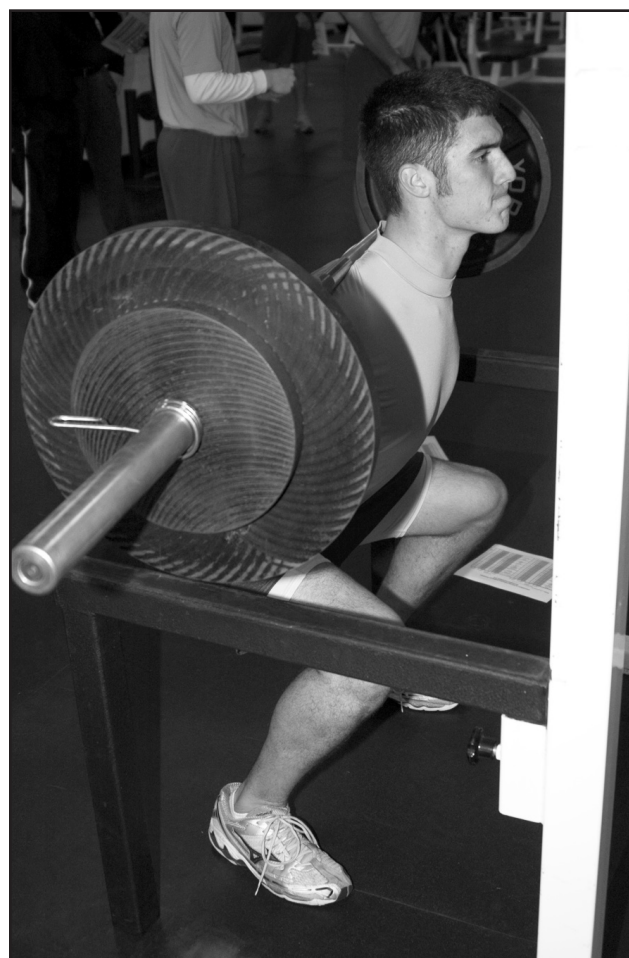
SOUTH CAROLINA STRENGTH & CONDITIONING PROGRAM



21 NCAA APPEARANCES 1974-77, 1980-86, 1988, 1992-93, 1998, 2000-05

CAROLINA BASEBALL

SOUTH CAROLINA STRENGTH & CONDITIONING PROGRAM



STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

CAROLINA BASEBALL

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDIA INFORMATION



Andrew Kitick
Assistant Director



Tom Price
SID Emeritus

The South Carolina Media Relations Office would like to thank you for your interest in the Carolina baseball team. This guide has been prepared to assist you in your coverage of the team. If you have any questions or requests please contact South Carolina baseball contact Andrew Kitick at 803-777-5257.

MEDIA GAME DAY SERVICES

At home and on the road, notes and statistics will be provided in the press box and on-line at www.uscsports.com. Complete box scores will be available shortly after each contest. A game story and box score following each game will be faxed and e-mailed to outlets requested. Scores will be reported to area broadcast outlets.

Three telephone lines are available for use on the print media level.

Updated SEC and other scores of interest are provided throughout the game.

SCORE UPDATES

Media who wish to retrieve home score updates can call the press row phone at (803) 777-6648 or log on to uscsports.com for live gametracker stats.

CREDENTIALS

Accredited news media are admitted on a pass list basis through the breezeway entrance located near home plate and The Roost. Personnel assigned to cover games should contact Andrew Kitick at least one day before the game.

PARKING

There is no reserved media parking for regular season home games but there is parking available in the Roost lot near the breezeway entrance (off Heyward Street). For SEC and Clemson games, media are advised to arrive early.

RADIO INFORMATION

Gamecock Sports Properties, a partnership between the University of South Carolina Athletic Department and two of the country's leaders in the collegiate sports industry, ISP Sports and Learfield Communications, Inc., is the originating medium for radio coverage of the 2006 Carolina baseball games.

The Gamecock Radio Network occupies the booth at the far right (facing the field) of the upper level of the press box. Visiting radio occupies the space at the far left with the center area reserved for television.

The University of South Carolina provides two telephone lines at the visitor's radio position and two at the home section. Anyone who needs special assistance with phone lines may call the Gamecock Sports Properties office at (803) 777-7895.

INTERVIEWS

South Carolina head coach Ray Tanner, staff and all Gamecock players are available for media interviews. Interviews can be conducted on Tuesdays and Thursdays before practice from 1:45-2:30 p.m. or at other times arranged through the South Carolina Media Relations Office. Coach Tanner is also available during the conference season on the SEC Teleconference.

It is requested that all interviews be arranged through Andrew Kitick. Players and coaches have been instructed to not agree to interviews not arranged by the Media Relations Office.

POST-GAME INTERVIEWS

Post-game interviews are conducted on the field following the game. After a cooling-off period, USC head coach Ray Tanner and requested players will be brought to the interview area. The South Carolina locker room is closed to the media. Media who wish to interview opposing coach or players should make requests through the Visiting SID.

IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS

Media Relations Office	803-777-5204
Media Relations Fax	803-777-2967
Andrew Kitick's Office	803-777-5257
Andrew Kitick's Cell	803-240-4150
Tom Price's Home	803-787-2395
Ticket Office	803-777-4274
Kristi Davis	803-777-7830
Baseball Administrative Assistant	
Press Box Lower Level	803-777-6648
	803-777-6691

COLLEGE BASEBALL MEDIA OUTLETS

Baseball America

Will Kimmey
Phone: 1-800-845-2726
E-mail: willkimmey@baseballamerica.com

Collegiate Baseball

Lou Pavlovich Jr.
Phone: (520) 623-7815
E-mail: lou@baseballnews.com

Rosenblatt Report (Rosenblattreport.com)

Kendall Rogers
Phone: (979) 229-4092
E-mail: kendall@rosenblattreport.com

Southeastern Baseball (SEBaseball.com)

Mark Etheridge
Phone: (205) 886-7978
E-mail: mark@sebaseball.com

Sports Weekly

Dana Grodin
Phone: (703) 276-3721
E-mail: bbwcollege@aol.com

CAROLINA BASEBALL

LOCAL SOUTH CAROLINA MEDIA OUTLETS

NEWSPAPERS

Associated Press

Pete Iacobelli
Phone: (803) 799-5510
E-mail: piacobelli@ap.org

The (Charleston) Post & Courier

Charlie Bennett
Phone: (803) 709-9757
E-mail: chap113@hotmail.com

The (Florence) Morning News

Mark Haselden
Phone: (843) 317-7271
E-mail: mhaselden@florencenews.com

The Gamecock

Jonathan Hillyard
Phone: (803) 777-7182
E-mail: gamecocksports@gwm.sc.edu

The Greenville News

Rick Scoppe
Phone: (803) 256-2588
E-mail: rscoppejr@sc.rr.com

The (Rock Hill) Herald

David Cloninger
Phone: (803) 329-4034
E-mail: DCloninger@heraldonline.com

The (Spartanburg) Herald-Journal

Paul Strelow
Phone: (864) 680-1138
E-mail: paul.strelow@shj.com

Spurs & Feathers

Dexter Hudson
Phone: (803) 256-1789
E-mail: spursusc@aol.com

The State Newspaper (Columbia)

Kent Babb
Phone: (803) 729-9531
E-mail: kbabb@thestate.com

The (Sumter) Item

Dennis Brunson
Phone: (803) 774-1241
E-mail: dennisb@theitem.com

RADIO

WCOS AM 1400

Teddy Heffner
Phone: (803) 343-1100
E-mail: talkingsports1@aol.com

WCOS AM 1400

Lane Wofford
Phone: (803) 343-1100
E-mail: lswofford@yahoo.com

WISW AM 1320

Mike Morgan & Jay Phillips
Phone: (803) 796-9975
E-mail: primetime1320@aol.com

WOIC FM 93.1

Mark Quinn
Phone: N/A
E-mail: mquinn@wistv.com

WOIC FM 93.1

Rich Taylor
Phone: (803) 361-2309
E-mail: richtaylor@espn-columbia.com

WVOC AM 560

Christopher Thompson
Phone: (803) 343-1100
E-mail: tophsports@aol.com

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS NETWORK

Phil Kornblut
Phone: (803) 790-4300
E-mail: philtalk@aol.com

TELEVISION

WIS-TV (Channel 10)

Rick Henry
Phone: (803) 758-1288
E-mail: rhenry@wis-tv.com

WLTX-TV (Channel 19)

Bob Shields
Phone: (803) 776-9508
E-mail: sports@wltx.com

WOLO-TV (Channel 25)

Tim Hill
Phone: (803) 754-7525
E-mail: thill@wolo.com

2006 TRAVEL PLANS

MARCH 5 CLEMSON

Hotel:

Hampton Inn Anderson
120 Interstate Blvd.
Anderson, SC 29621
Telephone: (864) 375-1999

MARCH 17-19 AUBURN

Hotel:

The Hotel at Auburn University
241 South College Street
Auburn, AL 36830
Telephone: (334) 321-3185

MARCH 31 - APRIL 2 LSU

Hotel:

Marriott Baton Rouge
5500 Hilton Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70808
Telephone: (225) 924-5000

APRIL 21-23 KENTUCKY

Hotel:

Sheraton Suites
2601 Richmond Road
Lexington, KY 40509
Telephone: (859) 268-0060

MAY 5-7 GEORGIA

Hotel:

Holiday Inn
197 E. Broad Street
Athens, GA 30603
Telephone: (706) 549-4433

MAY 18-20 VANDERBILT

Hotel:

Holiday Inn Select Vanderbilt
2613 West End Avenue
Nashville, TN 37203
Telephone: (615) 327-4707

CAROLINA BASEBALL

VETERANS, NEWCOMERS BLEND TO MAKE GAMECOCKS CONTENDERS AGAIN

Coach Ray Tanner begins his 10th season at South Carolina with a balanced roster of veterans and newcomers that he believes can propel the Gamecocks to a seventh consecutive trip to the NCAA baseball tournament and possibly a fourth trip in five years to the College World Series.

"I like our personnel," Tanner said shortly after completion of fall workouts. "I don't think that we have awesome talent but we have very good talent."

That talent includes four position players who started more than half the games of last year's 41-23 season, four others who saw considerable playing time and returning pitchers who compiled a composite 13-4 record with a 4.01 earned run average in 211 innings. Add a recruiting class ranked number one in the nation by *Collegiate Baseball* and fourth best by *Baseball America*. At least two freshmen are expected to open the season as mainstays in the Gamecocks infield.

Tanner must replace eight position players though, who combined for 45 home runs and a .277 average plus five pitchers, who combined for 68 percent (28-19) of last year's 41 victories.

VETERANS

Senior outfielder Michael Campbell leads the returning veterans. He has played 200 games over three seasons, more than any player in Division I baseball. Campbell has also started every game the past two years and 193 over three seasons. Campbell batted .315 last year with eight home runs and 42 runs batted in. His career average is .301 with 27 homers and 124 RBI.

"Michael is a veteran player who has been starting since his freshman days," said Tanner. "He has strength in all areas and is a plus runner and plus defender. He has hit for a pretty good average his entire career with some power. He gets some assists from the outfield with a plus throwing arm. His style of play is not too high, not too low. He is a guy who over the course of a long season can put up numbers and be a great influence on this team."

Campbell has played left field primarily in the past with some starts in center field. He will move to center for his senior season with the departure of Davy Gregg.

A contender to replace Campbell in left field is junior college transfer Cheyne Hurst.

Third baseman Neil Giesler had a slow start in 2005 after two great junior college years but came on strong late in the season. He was named to the SEC and the NCAA Atlanta Regional all-tournament teams. Giesler batted .254 with six homers and was outstanding defensively. In 37 games at third base, Giesler committed only three errors for a .958 percentage, 10 points higher than the previous school record of .948 set by third baseman Bruce Pudlock in 1971.

Second baseman Chris Brown started 57 games last year with a .274 average and .966 fielding percentage. He is the projected starter in 2006 but faces competition from a couple of youngsters, redshirt freshman Andrew Crisp and true freshmen James Darnell. Junior college transfer Harley Lail is also in the mix. Lail earned NJCAA All-Region honors in 2005 at Spartanburg Methodist. Crisp played briefly last spring before an injury resulted in a medical redshirt. Darnell was an all-conference selection in California.

Tanner said Brown is a hard-nosed player who is better than his 2005 offensive numbers (.274 average, four homers, 34 RBI).

"He needs to keep his offense going to hold on to his job," said Tanner.

He added that Andrew Crisp, one of two brothers on the squad and Darnell could also play other infield positions or in the outfield.

Andrew's brother, Adam Crisp, is a sophomore transfer from Spartanburg Methodist Junior College. Crisp, a 2005 NJCAA All-America selection, will be a candidate for a spot in the starting outfield.

Mark Stanley is a fifth-year senior, who is projected as the starter in right field. He worked his way into the starting lineup midseason last year and was batting .311 when sidelined for the season by a broken finger. Steven Reinhold is a veteran backup outfielder.

Ian Paxton was a part-time starter (26 games) behind the plate last year with very good defensive tools but batted only .200. Tanner hopes for more offensive production by him in 2006.

Tanner said he was extremely happy with the fall practice performance by Paxton (.297, three homers, 13 RBI).

"There was much improvement in his offense to go along with his steady defense," said Tanner.

Trent Kline, a switch-hitting sophomore transfer from St. Petersburg Junior College and returnee Phil Disher will provide competition for Paxton behind the plate. Kline posted a .350 average (14-for-40 with two homers) in the fall and Disher won player of the fall honors with a .381 average and five homers.

Disher, who showed tremendous power in limited action as a freshman last year, may wind up as the designated hitter. Also competing for time there may be Robbie Grinestaff from Okaloosa Walton Junior College. Grinestaff batted .324 (12-for-37), three homers and 13 RBI in fall intrasquad games.

"We have plenty of veteran players," said Tanner. "We've got Ian Paxton, one of the better defensive catchers in the SEC. Neil Giesler, Michael Campbell, Chris Brown, Mark Stanley is a fifth-year guy. We have enough experienced guys to go along with our young position players that it's a good mix."

He added that most of the pitching arms are veterans with the exception of Will Atwood and Mike Cisco, both freshmen. Tanner described his pitching staff as a good blend.

NEW FACES

"We are going to play at least two freshmen all the time and maybe as many as three or on occasion four guys," said Tanner. "They are no average freshmen. They are above average talents. I'm hoping by the spring time gets here they will be playing more like sophomores than freshmen."

The two sure starters are shortstop Reese Havens and first baseman Justin Smoak. Havens continues a Gamecock trend of blue chip shortstops and comes from Bishop England High School in Charleston which sent Drew Meyer to South Carolina. Meyer was a 2002 first round draft pick by the Texas Rangers. Smoak is from Stratford High School in Goose Creek.

Both were high school All-Americans and among 36 players selected to play in the 2005 High School All-American Game. Havens was drafted by the Colorado Rockies and Smoak by the Oakland Athletics. Smoak was the South Carolina AAAA Player of the Year in 2004 and 2005 and Havens was AA Player of the Year in 2005. Both also played on state championship teams.

Smoak has some big shoes to fill. Steve Pearce won the triple crown at Carolina each of the past two seasons, leading the team in batting average, home runs and runs batted in. Pearce also set a fielding record at first base.

Havens is a left-handed hitter while Smoak switch hits. Tanner admits both had some growing pains in the fall but added that was to be expected.

Jonathan Lieber, 6-4, 215, from the junior college ranks, will challenge Smoak at first base. In fall intrasquad games, Lieber batted .260 (9-for-35) with four home runs. He could also be a designated hitter.

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"I'm hoping we will become a seasoned team early into our campaign," said Tanner. "I think it is important to get some games under our belt and have a positive outcome in order for these players to grow up in a little bit. Success early will be very important to us."

PITCHING

On the mound, the Gamecocks must replace Aaron Rawl and Zac McCamie, who won nine games apiece last year.

"They produced 18 wins and were constant performers," said Tanner. "I am confident that there is someone waiting in the wings."

Two of those in waiting could be left-handers Arik Hempy and Forrest Beverly.

Beverly, slowed by arm troubles early in his career, had an outstanding summer in the Coastal Plains League. After arm surgery sidelined him the entire 2004 season, Beverly worked 24 innings last year with a 1-0 record and a 4.50 earned run average.

"Arik Hempy needs to return to the form he showed as a freshman," said Tanner.

In 2004, Hempy pitched a complete game shutout against Ole Miss and earned two relief wins over Florida in SEC games. Arm troubles last year limited him to 27.1 innings. His 2005 record was 2-1 with a 2.65 ERA.

Hempy made six starts last year. The only other returnee with more than two is right-hander Wynn Pelzer, who started four games. Pelzer put together a 1-2 record with a 4.34 ERA as a freshman. Following his summer in the Coastal Plains League, Pelzer was named the top prospect in the league by *Baseball America*. Tanner expects better from him in 2006.

"Pelzer is our most talented arm," said Tanner. "We need him to step up to his potential."

Dan Luczak, a big right-hander (6-6, 215) from Wisconsin who has pitched only one inning in two years due to an injury, may be ready to step up.

He had the best earned run average in fall intrasquad games, 1.69 in 10.2 innings.

"Luczak could be our wildcard," said Tanner. "He came here highly touted but arrived with an injury."

Tanner also has comeback hopes for right-hander Conor Lalor, who had a 5-0 record as a freshman in 2003 but missed the entire 2004 season due to Tommy John surgery. He came back last year to pitch 27 innings in 14 appearances, two starts, with a 1-0 record and a 5.33 ERA.

Senior right-hander Andy Lambert had a 4-0 record last year, including a key win over Georgia Tech in the NCAA Regional and is counted on to perform well this spring.

Shawn Valdes-Fauli, a transfer from Miami (Fla.), was injured the entire 2005 season, but could fill the closer role in 2006.

"If healthy, Valdes-Fauli should be on track," said Tanner.

Other returning pitchers that will add depth to the bullpen include sophomore right-hander Andrew Cruse, junior right-hander Harris Honeycutt and junior right-hander Jeff Jeffords.

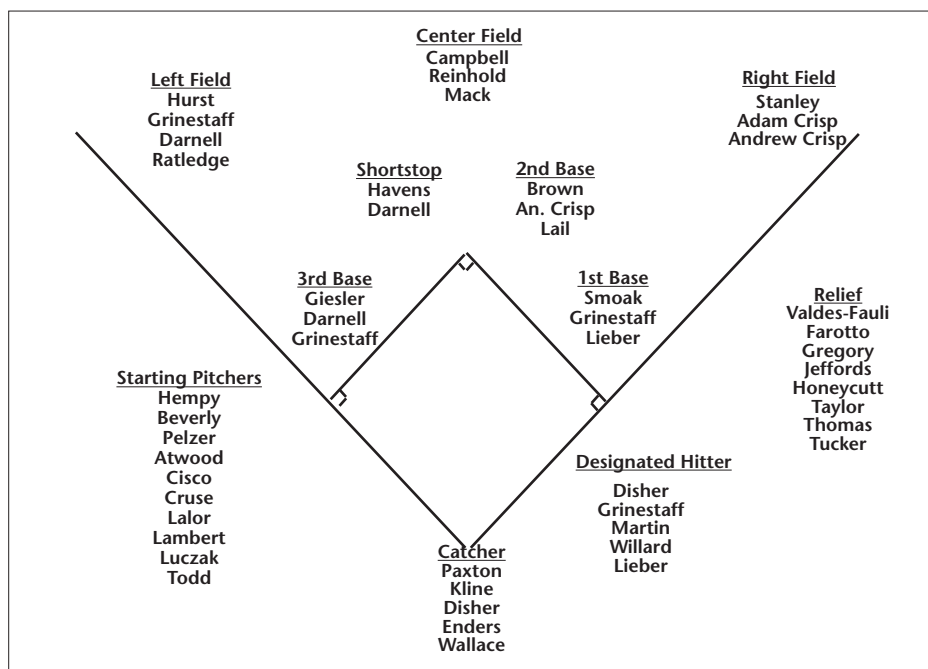
The Gamecock bullpen also welcomes to the mix junior college transfers Dozier Taylor and Chase Tucker. Both come from the state of Texas with Taylor a right-hander and Tucker a left-hander. Florida junior college transfer Brandon Todd was a Florida JC All-Star last year and figures to be among those getting innings for USC.

Tanner said the top two freshmen pitchers are left-hander Will Atwood and right-hander Mike Cisco. Atwood (6-2, 175) is from Piedmont High School in Greenville and Cisco (5-10, 190) is from Wando High School in Mount Pleasant. Cisco is the grandson of former major league pitcher and coach Galen Cisco.

Atwood was South Carolina AAA Player of the Year in 2005 and won the award as the outstanding newcomer in fall practice with a 1.76 earned run average. His 15.1 innings were the most by any pitcher in the fall and his 1.76 ERA was second to Luczak. Cisco pitched 14.1 innings in the fall. The Gamecocks also like freshman left-hander Alex Farotto, from Greer, S.C. and a product of the River-side HS program.

Tanner indicated that it is hard to pinpoint three or four starting pitchers in the preseason.

"A number of guys could emerge," said Tanner. "We've got some capable people."



CAROLINA BASEBALL

The Gamecock Baseball Radio Network

Gamecock Sports Properties, a partnership between the University of South Carolina Athletic Department and two of the country's leaders in the collegiate sports marketing industry, ISP Sports and Learfield Communications, Inc., is the originating medium for radio coverage of the 2006 Carolina baseball games.

WOMG (103.1 FM) and WISW (1320 AM) in Columbia will be the flagship stations for originations of 34 regular season games plus all post-season play. The schedule will include 30 SEC games and the four game set with Clemson. Games can also be heard on www.uscsports.com.

In addition, for the second straight season live audio broadcast for the additional 22 regular season games will be available on-line at uscsports.com

Mike Morgan enters his seventh year as the voice of Carolina Baseball on the Gamecocks Baseball Radio Network. Morgan also serves as the radio play-by-play announcer for the USC Men's Basketball team and the television announcer for the Gamecock football telecasts for CSS as well as Pay Per View

In addition, Morgan co-hosts "PrimeTime Sports" on News/Talk WIS (1320 AM), Monday-Fridays from 6 to 8 p.m., as well as "Carolina Calls" featuring Gamecock coaches.

Before coming to Columbia, Morgan performed various play-by-play stints for football, basketball and baseball in Georgia, Alabama, and Florida. He also performed play-by-play for the single-A affiliate of the Cleveland Indians, the Columbus Redstixx, for two seasons. Morgan has been called upon to broadcast college and minor league baseball for television outfits including CSS as well.

As the voice of the Gamecocks, Morgan has called 14 College World Series games from Omaha including the 2002 National Championship.

While behind the mic for basketball, he's called NCAA tournament games and last year's NIT championship from Madison Square Garden.

Morgan recently earned 2005 South Carolina SportsCaster of the Year by the National SportsCasters and Sportswriters Association (NSSA).

Tommy Moody, also in his seventh year, will again join Morgan as analyst for the home SEC contests. Along with his work as analyst, Moody will be play-by-play announcer for the additional 22 contests available at uscsports.com. Moody is the chairman of the USC Athletic Hall of Fame and was a past president of the USC Association of Lettermen in 1992. Moody played under head coach Bobby Richardson on the Gamecock baseball team from 1970-72 as an infielder.

Tom Price will join with Morgan to call the action on all road contests. Price served as Sports Information Director for 30 years at the University of South Carolina and continues to serve the athletics department in emeritus capacity.

Price was inducted into the CoSIDA Hall of Fame (College Sports Information Directors of America) in 1981, recipient of the 1992 CoSIDA Lifetime Achievement Award and winner of the 1993 CoSIDA Arch Ward Award, presented annually to a CoSIDA member who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of college sports information, and who by his or her activities, has brought dignity and prestige to the profession.

In addition, Price has also been honored by the NCBWA (National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association). Price received the organization's highest honor in 1982, the Wilbur Snyppe Award, a yearly honor that is given to a professional for their contributions to the sport of collegiate baseball.

2006 Network Affiliates

Abbeville	WZLA	92.9 FM
Allendale	WDOG	93.5 FM
Anderson	WRIX	103.1 FM
Charleston	WTMA	1250 AM
Columbia	WISW	1320 AM
Columbia	WOMG	103.1 FM
Florence	WWFN	1001.1 FM
Greenwood	WLMA	1350 AM
Manning	WYMB	920 AM
Woodruf	WDRF	1510 AM



Mike Morgan, Tom Price & Tommy Moody

2006 SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY

10	ELON #	3 pm
11	ELON #	1:30 pm
12	ELON #	1:30 pm
17	RADFORD #	3 pm
18	RADFORD #	1:30 pm
19	RADFORD #	1:30 pm
24	DUQUESNE #	3 pm
25	DUQUESNE #	1:30 pm
26	DUQUESNE #	1:30 pm

MARCH

4	CLEMSON@	1:30 pm
5	at Clemson@	2 pm
7	WILLIAM & MARY#	7 pm
10	QUINNIPIAC#	7 pm
11	QUINNIPIAC#	4 pm
12	QUINNIPIAC#	1:30 pm
14	DAVIDSON#	7 pm
15	YALE#	7 pm
17	at Auburn*@	8 pm
18	at Auburn*@	5 pm
19	at Auburn*@	2 pm
21	CHARLESTON SOUTHERN#	7 pm
22	FURMAN#	7 pm
24	FLORIDA*@	7 pm
25	FLORIDA*@	4 pm
26	FLORIDA*@	1:30 pm
28	WOFFORD#	7 pm
31	at LSU*@	7:30 pm

APRIL

1	at LSU*@	3 pm
2	at LSU*@	2 pm
5	CLEMSON@	7 pm
7	ALABAMA*@	7 pm
8	ALABAMA*@	4 pm
9	ALABAMA*@	1:30 pm
12	at Clemson@	7:15 pm
14	OLE MISS*@	7 pm
15	OLE MISS*@	4 pm
16	OLE MISS*@	1:30 pm
19	THE CITADEL#	7 pm
21	at Kentucky*@	6:30 pm
22	at Kentucky*@	6:30 pm
23	at Kentucky*@	1 pm
28	MISSISSIPPI STATE*@	7 pm
29	MISSISSIPPI STATE*@	4 pm
30	MISSISSIPPI STATE*@	1:30 pm

MAY

3	at Wofford	7 pm
5	at Georgia*@	7 pm
6	at Georgia*@	4 pm
7	at Georgia*@	1 pm
9	at The Citadel#	7 pm
12	TENNESSEE*@	7 pm
13	TENNESSEE*@	4 pm
14	TENNESSEE*@	1:30 pm
16	at Furman#	6 pm
18	at Vanderbilt*@	7 pm
19	at Vanderbilt*@	3 pm
20	at Vanderbilt*@	2 pm

24-28 at SEC Baseball Tournament
(Hoover, Ala.)

JUNE

2-5	at NCAA Regionals
9-12	at NCAA Super Regionals
16-26	at College World Series

*Denotes SEC Game All Times Eastern

@ Denotes USC Baseball Radio Network Game
Denotes USC Baseball Internet Radio Contest Only