Pitchers Key USC Baseball Victories

By Billy Baker
Sports Writer

Carolina did not display the potent hitting attack it used to dominate its first three opponents, but the two-hit pitching of Raymond Lavigne and seven timely Gamecock hits gave Carolina a 5-0 win over West Virginia Monday at the Road. 

Then Tuesday at Francis Marion, the Gamecocks won their fifth straight game, defeating Francis Marion 5-3.

Against West Virginia, USC scored in the second inning when John Gambrill singled and stole second. Jim Pankovits singled to left, bringing in Gambrill.

In the fourth, Carolina made it 2-0. Hank Small reached on an error and advanced to third when a Earl Bass single occurred. Gambrill then singled in Bass.

The Gamecocks put the game out of reach in the seventh when they added three runs. Gambrill led off with a walk and was singled to third by Pankovits, the freshman third baseman.

Frank Matsueki's fielder's choice hit scored Gambrill. Pankovits moved to third on the play and scored when West Virginia pitcher Dan Dolphi balked. Matsueki scored on Andy Lehigh's single.

South Alabama and Clemson.

Tuesday Carolina trailed 3-2, after seven innings but rallied for three runs in the eighth for its fifth win of the season 5-3.

Francis Marion jumped on Gamecock starter Earl Bass for three runs in the first inning for all their scoring. Steve Fowler doubled in two Swamp Fox runs and scored on a sacrifice fly.

Catcher Drew Coates homered for Carolina in the third to pull USC within one run 3-2.

Bass led off the eighth inning with a single and reached second on an error and John Gambrill walked. Both players were doubled in by Pankovits, who scored later in the inning when Coates singled.

Andy Johnson relieved Bass and was credited with the win. Bass had six strikeouts while Johnson had five.

Raymond Lavigne

Francis Marion, 3-2, after seven innings but rallied for three runs in the eighth for its fifth win of the season 5-3.

The competition is going to be tough, but I feel Bernie is ready to start running some good races," said USC track coach Bill McClure.

"He is just a freshman, so no matter how he runs, the experience will be well worth the trip."

In the 880-yard run, the Gamecocks will be represented by school record holder Jim Schaper. Schaper, who just this week returned from a meet in Moscow, is expected to be a top contender in the event.

"Jim is running good," said McClure. "He has run against good competition before, so that should not be a problem. The half mile is really being stacked this year because nobody wants to run against Tony Waldrop," Waldrop is the world record holder in the indoor mile. The University of North Carolina runner bettered Jim Ryun's old record earlier this season.

The only other event the Gamecocks are entered in is the two-mile relay. The team of Schaper, Mike (Rebus) Shley, and the Brown brothers, Don and John, has a school record of 7:35.0.

"I feel we have the capability to run somewhere around 7:30.0 or better," said McClure. "We have been running on small tracks all year, so this one ought to help our time."

"The track itself is made of oak, and was built by Daniels, the best track builder in the country, so it will be good and fast. If we do run around 7:30 we should be in the top three or four at the end."}

Shley is from Sandersville, Ga., where he lettered in all four major sports for three years. The junior half-miler will be working in the intermediate hurdles this outdoor season.

"Rebus has the size, speed, and stamina to be a great intermediate hurdler, said McClure. "As soon as he learns to hurdle correctly, he should win a lot of races." Schaper ran a 54.5 in the hurdles against Clemson last week; just 2.5 seconds from qualifying for the outdoor nationals.

The other two men on the relay team, the Brown brothers, Don and John, are from Charlotte, and both were high school state champions in the 880.

Don, a senior, and co-captain of the team, has been bothered somewhat by a bruised heel.

"My heel feels fine now," said Brown. "I hurt it early in the season, so it has had time to heal. We're ready to go, it is such an honor to represent the school at the best indoor meet in the world."

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Five Runners
In NCAA Meet

BY WAYNE PHILLIPS
Sports Writer

When the best collegiate indoor runners meet this weekend at Detroit's Cobo Arena to run at the NCAA indoor championship, Carolina will be represented by five members of its team.

The five Gamecocks: a senior, two juniors, a sophomore, and a freshman, will compete in two individual events and one relay.

Freshman high hurdler Bernie Allen, from Harrisburg, Pa., will run the 80-yard high hurdles against a strong field. Allen, one of the most highly sought prep hurdlers in the country last year, has a school record time of 7.2 seconds.

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