USC not impressive, but victorious anyway

BY JAMES P. HERSH
Of The Gamecock staff

Without impressing most fans in the Coliseum, Carolina easily disposed of Bucknell 88-74 Monday night for its first win of the season. More than 12,000 people showed up for the season's opener, hoping that the Gamecocks would show why they are ranked highly this year. However, with coach Frank McGuire substituting freely USC seemed content to simply win the game rather than impress everyone with a large victory margin.

Junior guard Mike Dunlevy, who played 35 minutes, was the game's leading scorer with 28 points, a good sign since he is expected to pick up some of the scoring slack left by Brian Win- ter, who graduated last year. Dunlevy made 12 of 19 shots from the field.

After playing sluggish in the first seven minutes, the Gamecocks showed signs of their potential when they pulled away. Guard Jackie Gilloon off the bench for the first time in his college career. A freshman from W. New York, N. J., Gilloon had a good shooting night, two points and of for 5 from the field, but he had seven assists.

Gilloon replaced senior Jimmy Waldo in the backcourt when USC was trailing 9-3, and immediately Carolina roared off 22 points to Bucknell's two in the next seven minutes, including an 18-0 three-minute stretch.

After the game Gilloon said it was only a matter of getting the fast break moving for Carolina to break the game open. "Once we start getting the break moving there aren't many teams that can stop us," Gilloon said.

Gilloon made several behind-the-back passes and an assortment of other tricky passes in leading the fast break, and he quickly has become a favorite of the Coliseum crowd.

However, it was Boswell's effective pleasuring passes sometimes going away, giving him five of USC's 17 turnovers.

Another newcomer to the Carolina squad, Tom Boswell, had a difficult time getting started, but ended up with 15 points, second high for USC, and 11 rebounds, the team's high.

Boswell had his first shot at a Gamecock blocked by Bucknell's Sam Stettler, who is only 6-6, compared to Boswell's 6-9. But with three minutes gone in the game Boswell made his first points on a layup after faking Stettler out of position. From that point on Boswell had little trouble on offense.

Nothing to it

Team's big men clash

BY STEVE PARKER
Sports Editor

Carolina enters what may be its biggest test of the next several weeks when it encounters tough Oklahoma Saturday night in Norman, Okla.

Carolina, which thumped Bucknell 88-74 in the home opener, might be hard pressed to gain another victory against the Sooners, although the Oklahoma squad has already suffered a loss.

The game might be as significant for the Alvin Adams-Tom Boswell matchup it showcases as for the outcome itself. The two players, both junior centers, are laying claim to being the best big man in the nation.

Adams, twice Big Eight Conference Most Valuable Player, has done more on the collegiate court than Boswell, but the USC representative had enough talent to be drafted by the pros.

Adams, who averaged 21.2 points a game last year, scored 32 points in Oklahoma's season opening loss to Tulsa before fouling out of that game. Tulsa's Hurricanes, playing at home, upset the Sooners 71-64.

But Oklahoma, under second-year Coach Barry Hargrave, rebounded at home Monday night to whip Northeast Missouri 88-71.

The Gamecocks, ranked fourth by a few publications and fifth by Sports Illustrated, will be trying to break a recent tradition of losing the tough games on the road.

USC has lost 11 games in the past two seasons, and all but one have been on the road and to strong teams. Tennessee, Notre Dame, Indiana, Alabama and Davidson are among those who have knocked off the Gamecocks on the road.

USC has also barely slipped to victory in several other road encounters.

But, USC's team this year is a very good one with a new look. The team no longer plays control offense, instead relying on the fast-break style. And newcomers Boswell, Jackie Gilloon and Billy Truitt have yet to prove how much they can handle the fast break style.

Carolina's Boswell and the rest of the Gamecock squad could do a lot to help this year. Of course, they did against Bucknell. Against Bucknell, USC used just a man-to-man defense, not one deviating from that style.

But, Saturday night, the Gamecocks will definitely use some zone defenses. And USC won't be substituting nearly as much as it did against Bucknell.