

SPORTS

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USC BASEBALL | Gamecocks take on Valparaiso in first of two-game series, Page C3

Clemson's success comes at a price

CLEMSON FOOTBALL
Coaches receive \$1.3M in raises, including \$900,000 for Swinney

By **TRAVIS SAWCHIK**
The (Charleston) Post and Courier

CLEMSON — Clemson announced raises totaling \$1.3 million for its football staff Tuesday, increasing the staff's compensation by 33 percent — from \$2.67 million last year to \$4 million for 2010.

The increases are the cost of success and keeping a staff intact in the world of major-college football.

Clemson athletics director Terry Don Phillips said the salary bumps place the Tigers "well within" the upper tier of compensation for ACC football coaches.

"During the offseason, a number of our coaches were pursued by prominent programs in other conferences," Phillips said in a release. "We feel it is important to have continuity within the staff."

"When Clemson won three straight ACC championships from 1986-88, we had the same coaching staff all three years. When Florida State was among the top

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THE STATE

CLEMSON COACHES' SALARIES

	RAISE	NEW SALARY
DABO SWINNEY , head coach	\$900,000	\$1,750,000
KEVIN STEELE , defensive coordinator/linebackers	\$200,000	\$575,000
CHARLIE HARBISON , co-defensive coordinator/defensive backs	\$75,000	\$325,000
BILLY NAPIER , offensive coordinator/quarterbacks	\$75,000	\$275,000
DAN BROOKS , defensive line	\$30,000	\$210,000
DANNY PEARMAN , tackles/tight ends	\$20,000	\$210,000
ANDRE POWELL , running backs/special teams	\$20,000	\$180,000
CHRIS RUMPH , defensive ends	\$20,000	\$180,000
JEFF SCOTT , wide receivers/recruiting coordinator	\$20,000	\$130,000
BRAD SCOTT , offensive guards/centers	\$15,000	\$220,000

USC TRACK AND FIELD



GERRY MELENDEZ/GMELENDEZ@THESTATE.COM

USC's KeKe Clarke earned a trip to the NCAA Indoor Championships by winning the pentathlon at the SEC meet.

She can do it all

Gamecocks fifth-year pentathlete caps injury-plagued career with a trip to NAAs

By **CHRIS DEARING**
Special to The State

KeKe Clarke is a prime example that perseverance pays off. The fifth-year South Carolina senior qualified for her first NCAA Indoor Championships two weeks ago by becoming the first Gamecocks athlete to win the pentathlon at the SEC Indoor Championships.

Getting there wasn't easy. Clarke has battled hamstring and knee injuries, and there were plenty of times she thought about quitting. But with the encouragement of coaches and teammates, she was able to compete pain-free her final semester.

She made the most of her opportunity. "I've thought about quitting so many times," Clarke said. "You know what you can do, but you can't because you are restricted with injuries. But I wanted everybody to remember me as a hard worker — even with what I've been through. I can still win and compete, and it finally showed."

SEE **CLARKE** PAGE C2

NCAA TRACK

WHAT: NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships

WHEN: Friday-Saturday

WHERE: Randal Tyson Track Center, Fayetteville, Ark.

USC PARTICIPANTS:

Men: Johnny Dutch, 60m hurdles
Obakeng Ngwigwa, 400m
Booker Nunley, 60m hurdles
Antonio Sales, 200m
Michael Zajac, weight throw

Women: LaKya Brookins, 60m
KeKe Clarke, pentathlon
Brandi Cross, 400m
Gabrielle Glenn, 60m
Nadonna Rodrigues, 400m

Gamecocks on the other bubble

USC BASKETBALL
NIT bid might rest on results of lower-tier postseason tourneys

By **SETH EMERSON**
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South Carolina men's basketball assistant coach Mike Boynton drove to Charlotte on Monday to watch the Southern Conference

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ACC, SEC announce their players of the year, **C4**

title game. Boynton has worked for the coaches of both teams, Wofford and Appalachian State, and wanted to support them.

But Boynton and the Gamecocks had other reasons to care about the result.

Barring a run to the SEC tournament championship, the Game-

cocks hope to play in the NIT. They are on the bubble for the second-tier tournament, and results of the non-BCS conference title games will have a huge bearing on their position.

Regular-season league championships, such as Wofford, are assured an NIT spot if they fail to win their league tournament. Every time that happens, it takes an at-large bid away from the NIT.

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GAMECOCKS VS. TIDE

WHO: USC (15-15) vs. Alabama (16-14)

WHAT: SEC tournament first-round game

WHEN: 1 p.m. Thursday

WHERE: Bridgestone Arena, Nashville, Tenn.

TV: WIS-10

RADIO: WNKT-FM 107.5

GOGAMECOCKS.COM: Follow Seth's Twitter feed from the SEC tournament

Probation for Edwards

NASCAR

Helton says driver didn't cross line in wrecking Keselowski

By **JENNA FRYER**
The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE — Sticking with its "boys, have at it" attitude, NASCAR on Tuesday placed Carl Edwards on probation for three races for deliberately wrecking

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COMMENTARY: Edwards should have been suspended, **C2**

Brad Keselowski's car this past weekend in Atlanta.

Edwards will be monitored by NASCAR through the April 10 race at Phoenix but may drive in the Sprint Cup and Nationwide series.

NASCAR president Mike Helton said Edwards acted unacceptably

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